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THE AMERICAN JOURNAL

OF

SEMITIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

(CONTINUING "HEBRAICA")

VOLUME XX OCTOBER, 1903 NUMBER 1

TEXT OF THE CODE OF ḪAMMURABI, KING OF BABYLON (ABOUT 2250 B. C.).

EDITED BY ROBERT FRANCIS HARPER

With the co-operation of A. H. Godbey.

The Text as presented in the following pages has been reconstructed and edited from the photographs published by Scheil, *Code des lois de Hammurabi.* It is a preprint from my edition of the Ḫammurabi Code which I hope to have ready in December. This edition will contain (1) a Map; (2) a short Historical Preface; (3) a short Introduction on the Text, Language of the Code, etc.; (4) the Text; (5) a Transliteration; (6) a Translation; (7) a Glossary; (8) a List of Proper Names; (9) a List of Signs; (10) Indices, and (11) a Photograph of the Monument on which the Code is written.

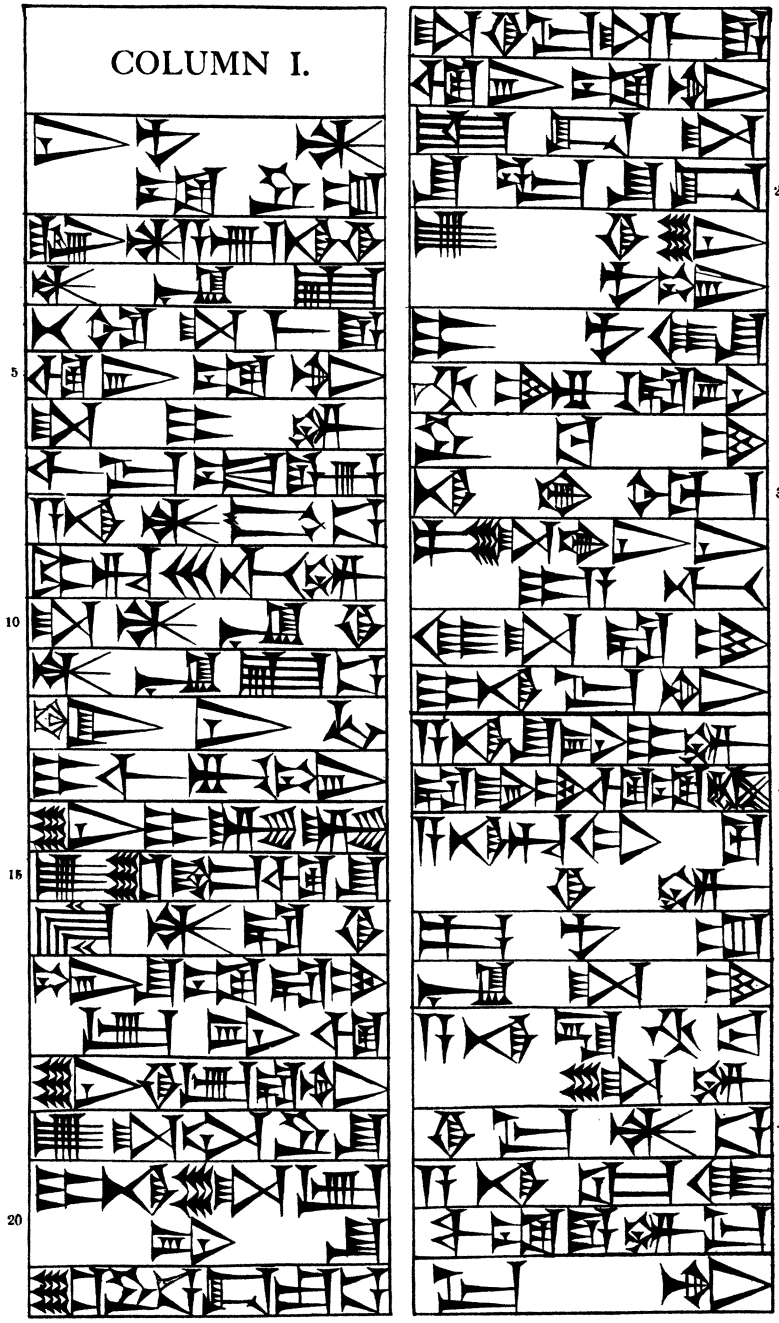
Under (3) note will be taken of 1) the different scribes who copied this Code; 2) the scribal mistakes, of which there is a large number; 3) erasures; and under (9) the various forms of the Signs will be listed.

To edit a text from a photograph is a very different task from editing from the original. No one can appreciate this more keenly than I. In fact, I am of opinion that an edition of an

Assyrian or Babylonian text which is to be final must go back to the originals. Hence there may be room for difference of opinion in regard to many small wedges which are not essential to any form of the Signs in which they are found.

Some restorations have been attempted, and in these I have for the most part followed Scheil. I have, however, been obliged to differ from him in some places. Only such restorations were made as seemed to me to be fairly certain. Others, which were less certain, will be offered in the Transliteration.

In the preparation of this text, I have had the faithful co-operation of my pupil, Mr. A. H. Godbey, Fellow in Semitics in the University of Chicago. Mr. Godbey has autographed the text and to him and Mrs. Godbey is due the present form. I am also greatly indebted to Professor Ira M. Price, who has read proofs of about one-half of the Plates, and to my pupil, R. B. McSwain, Professor in Southwestern University, Georgetown, Texas, who has rendered me valuable assistance in many ways. The final responsibility, however, rests upon me.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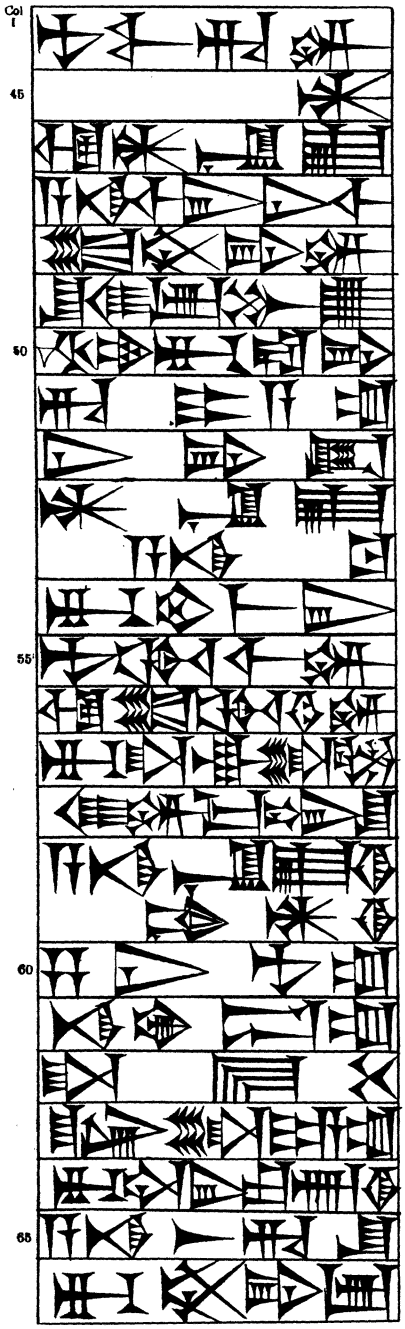

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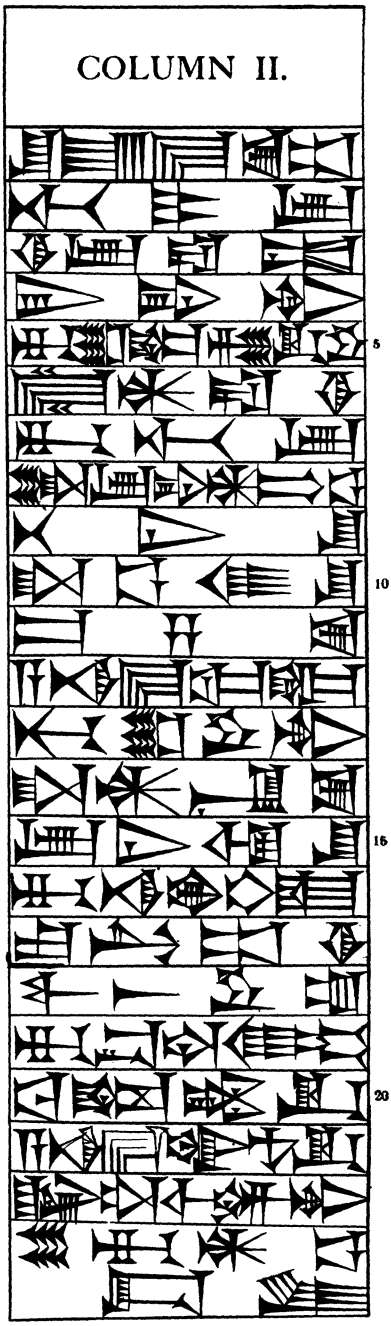

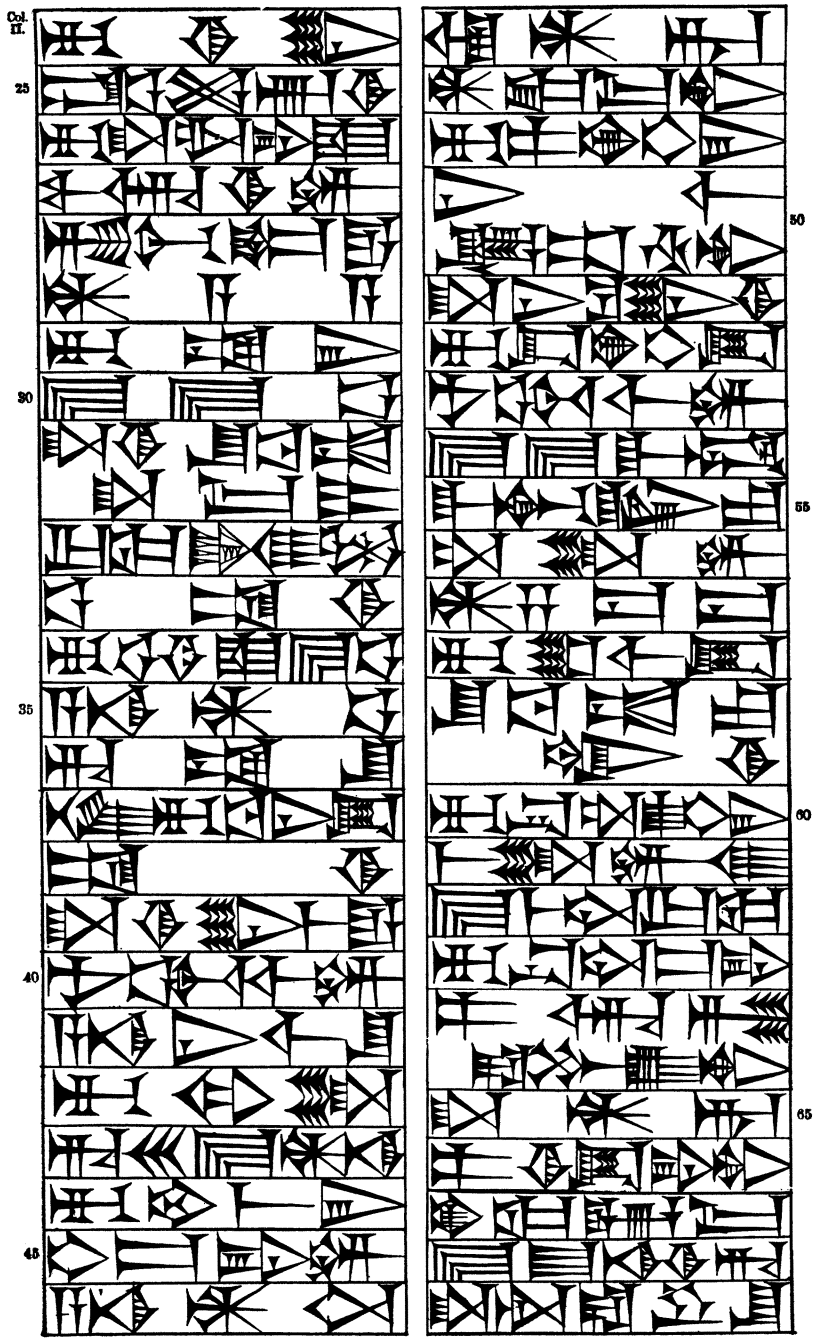
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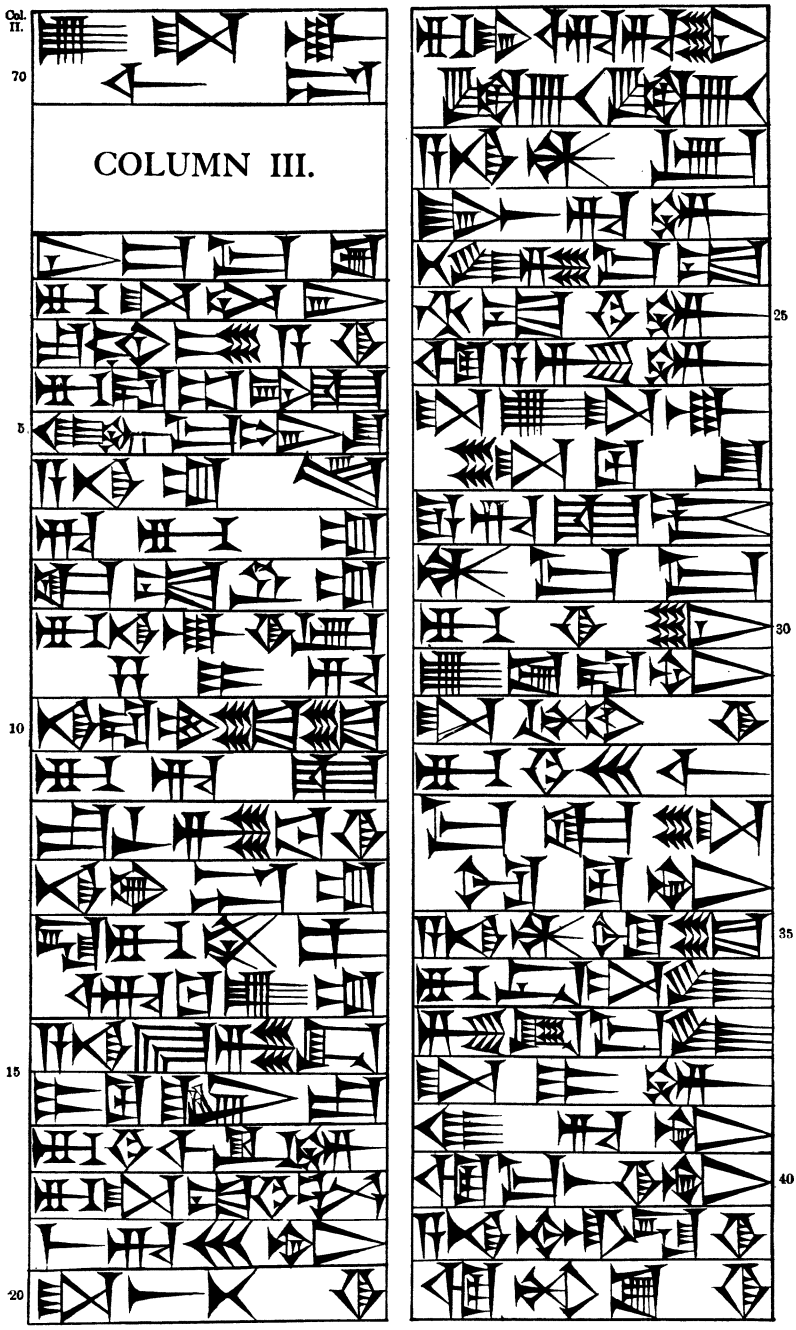
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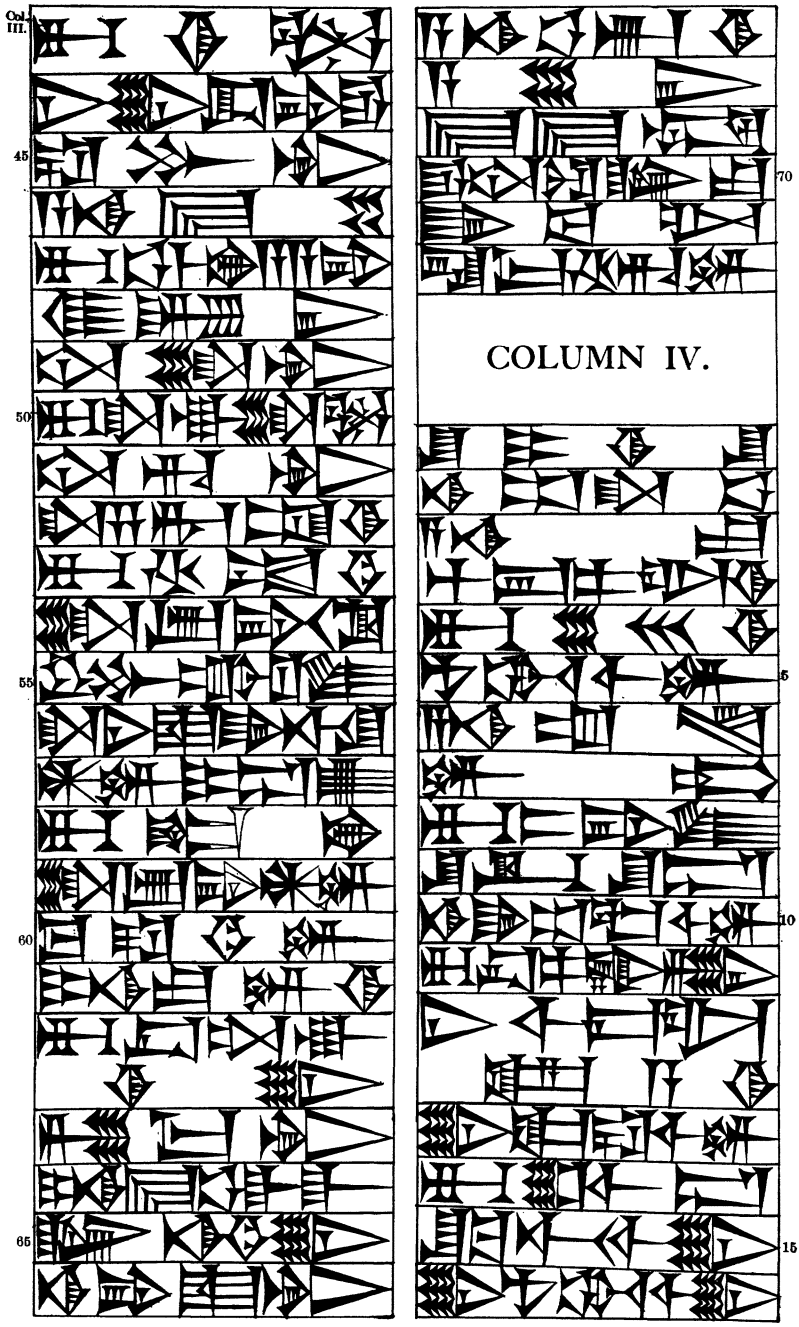
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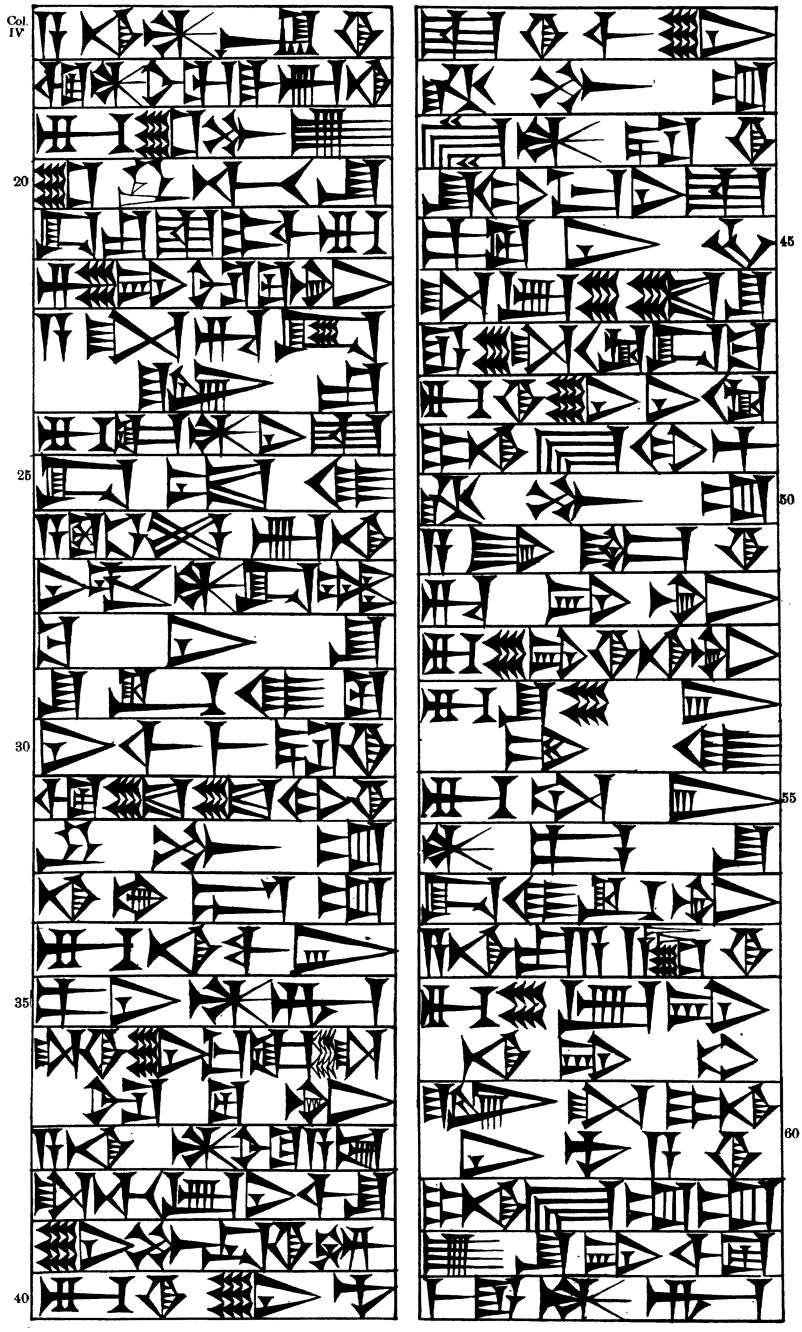
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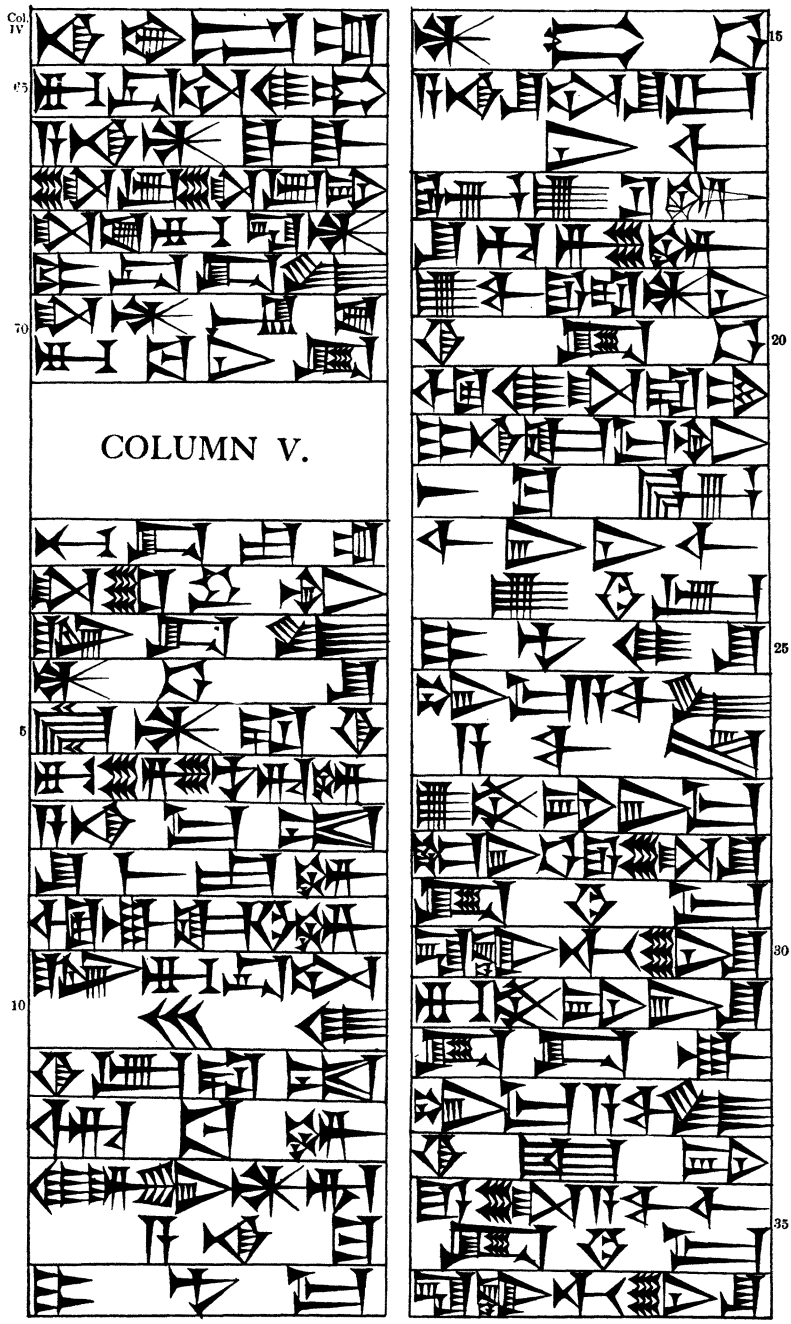
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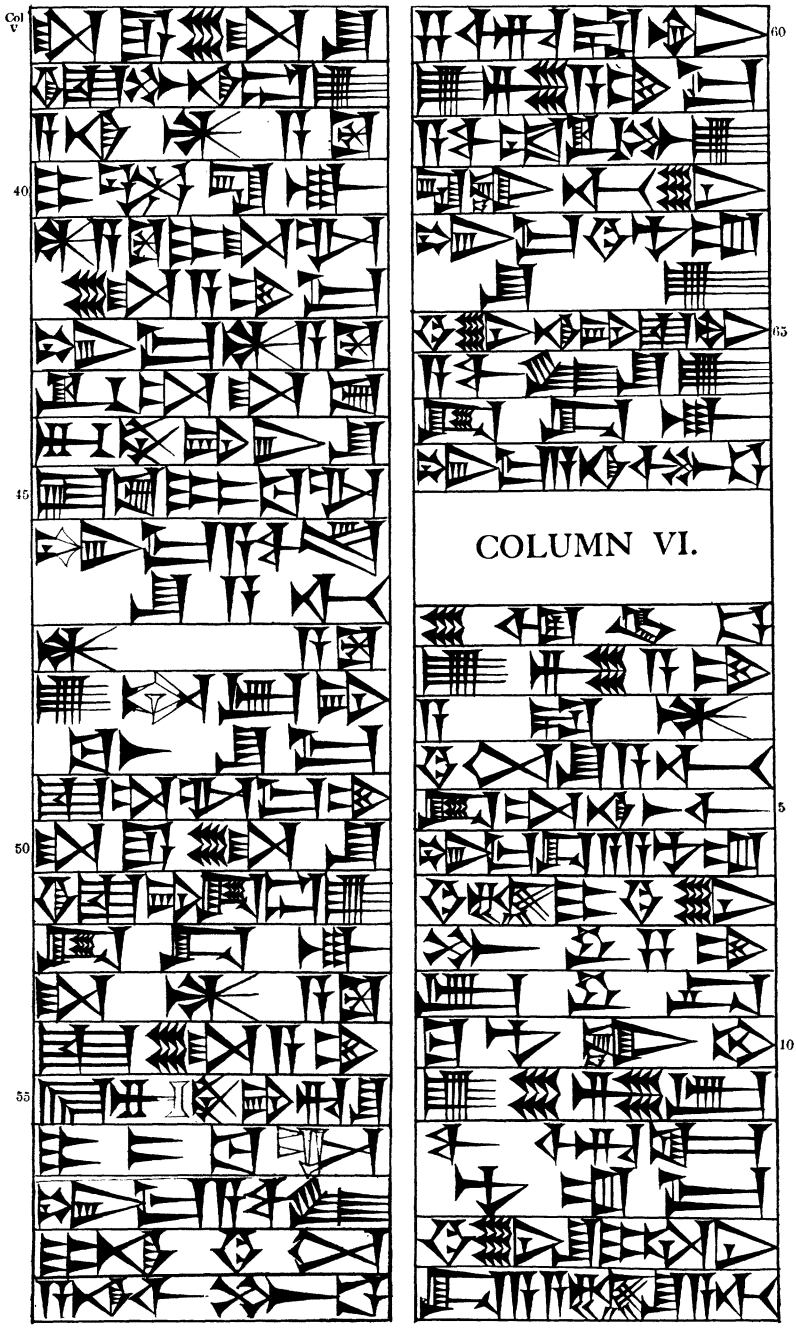
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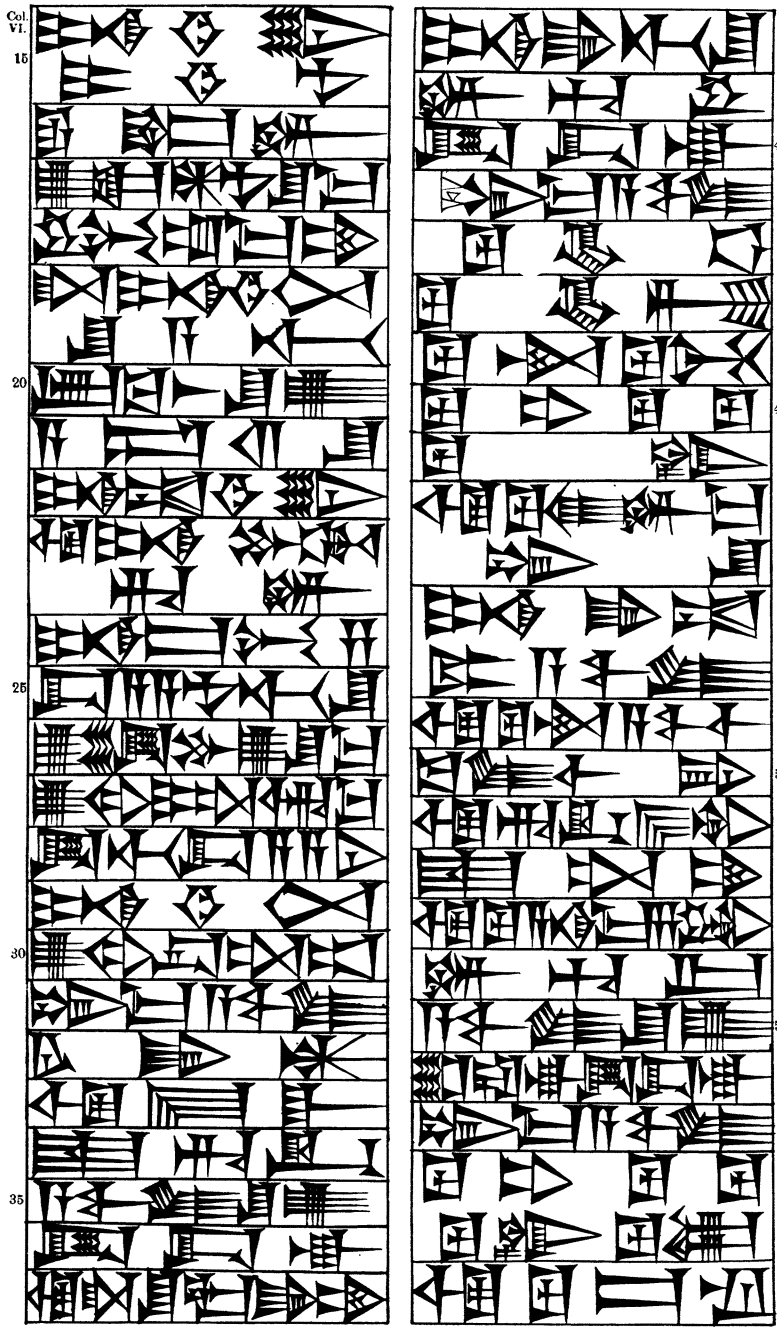
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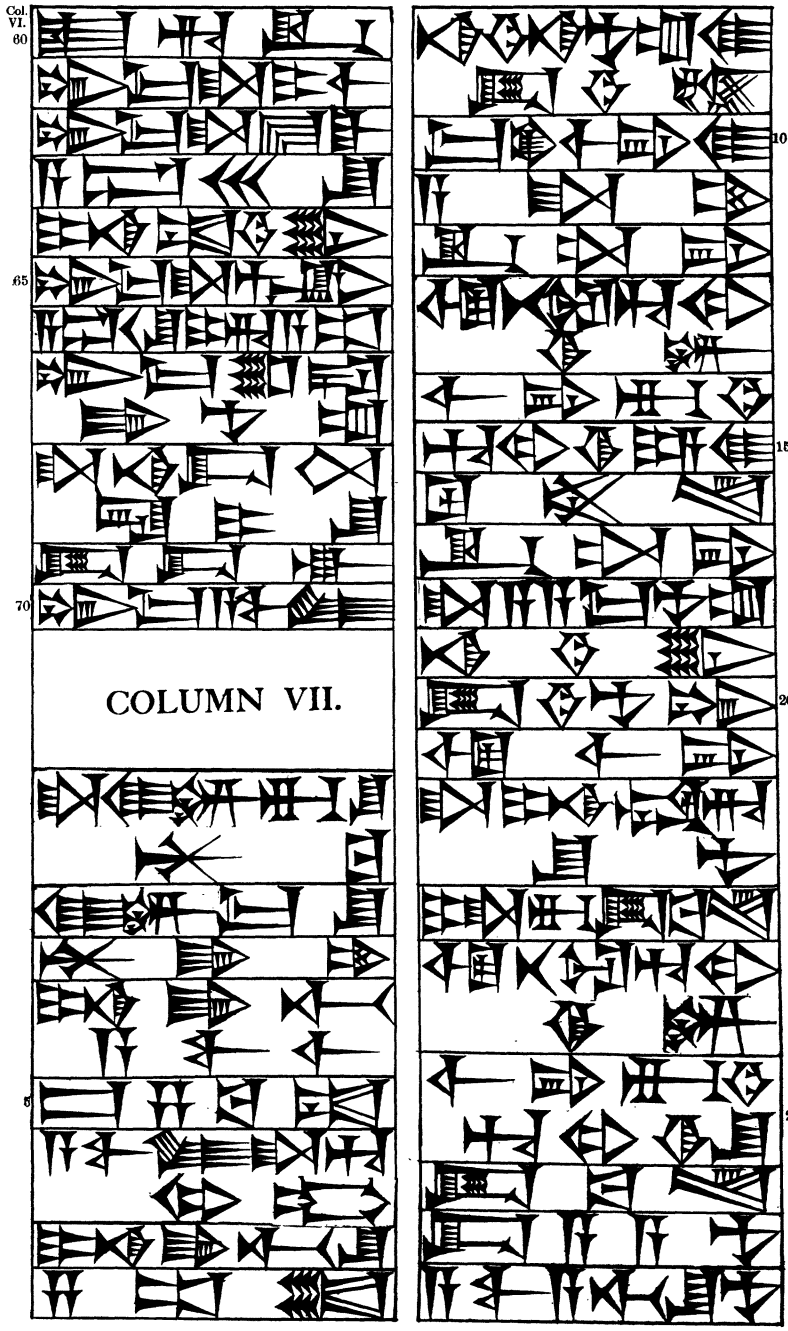
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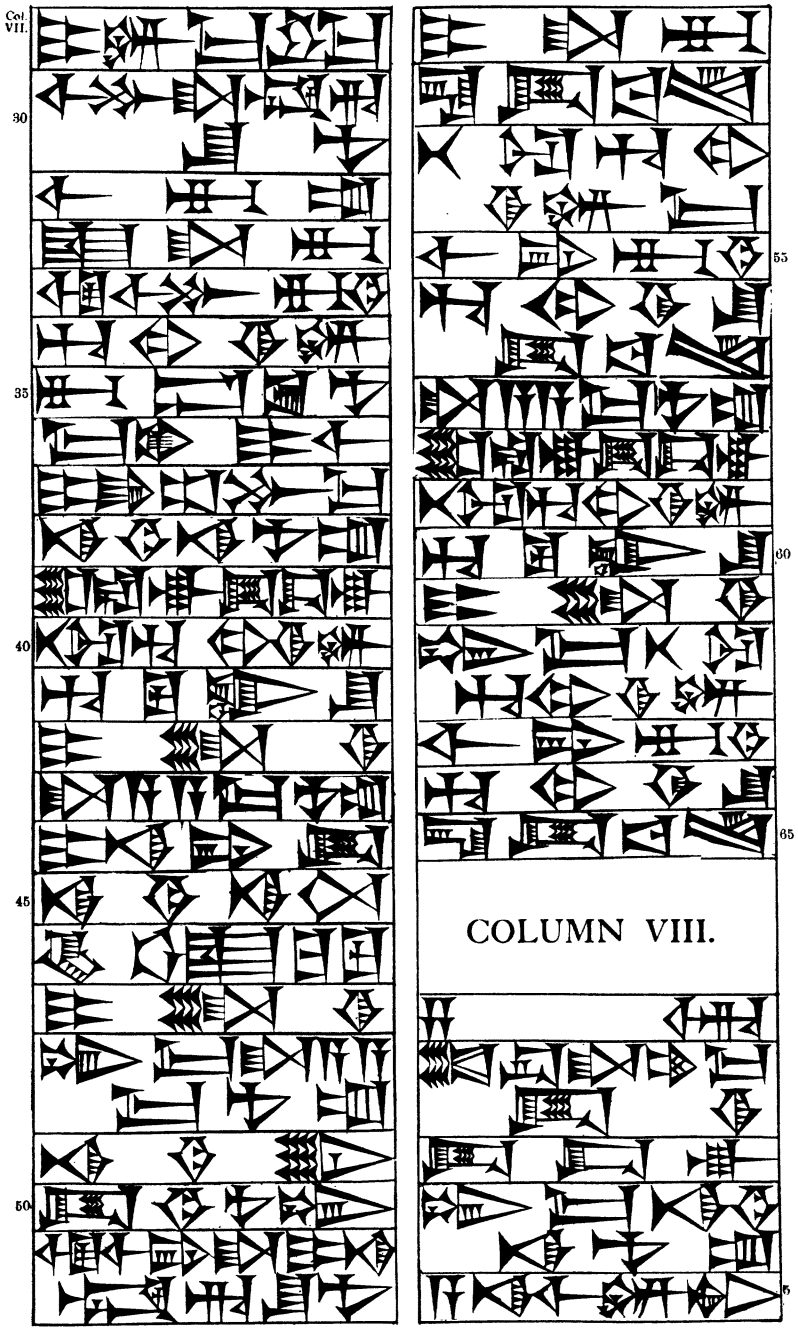
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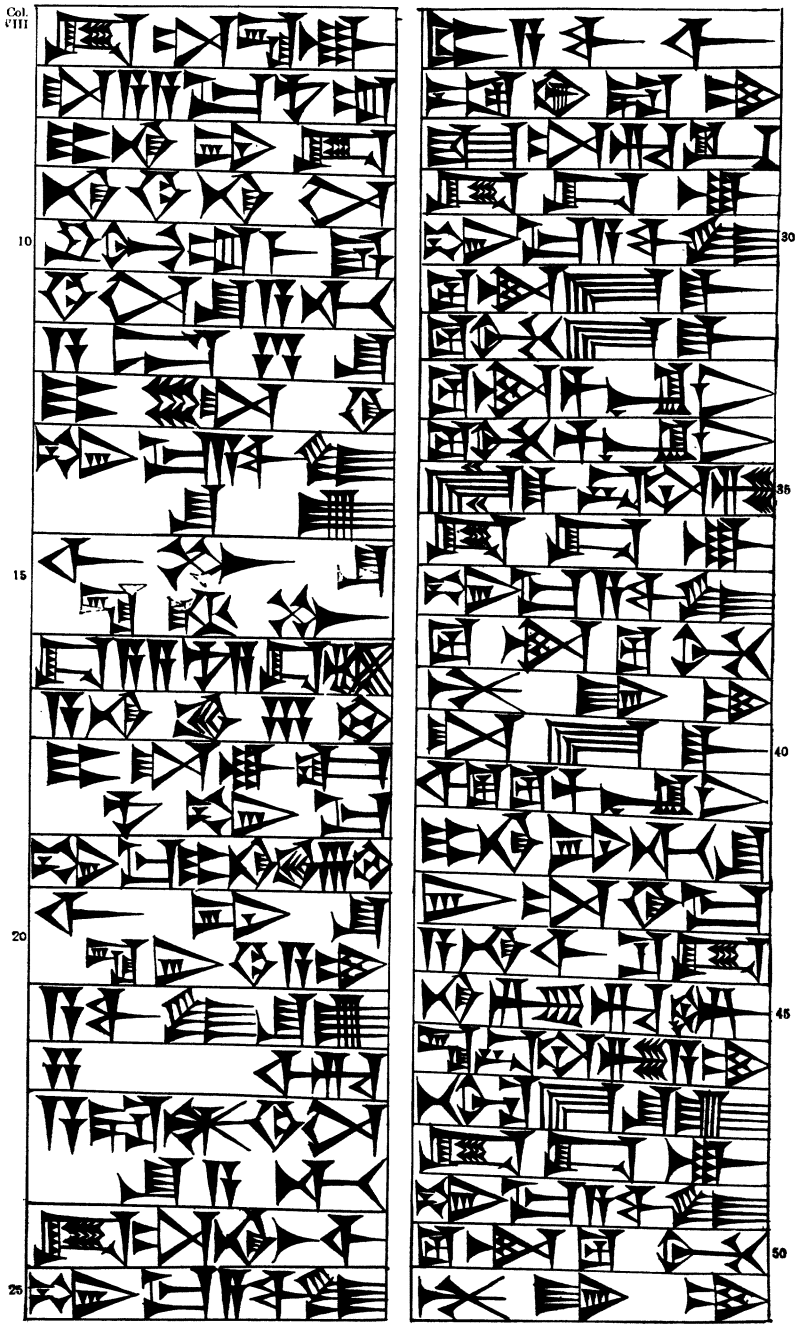
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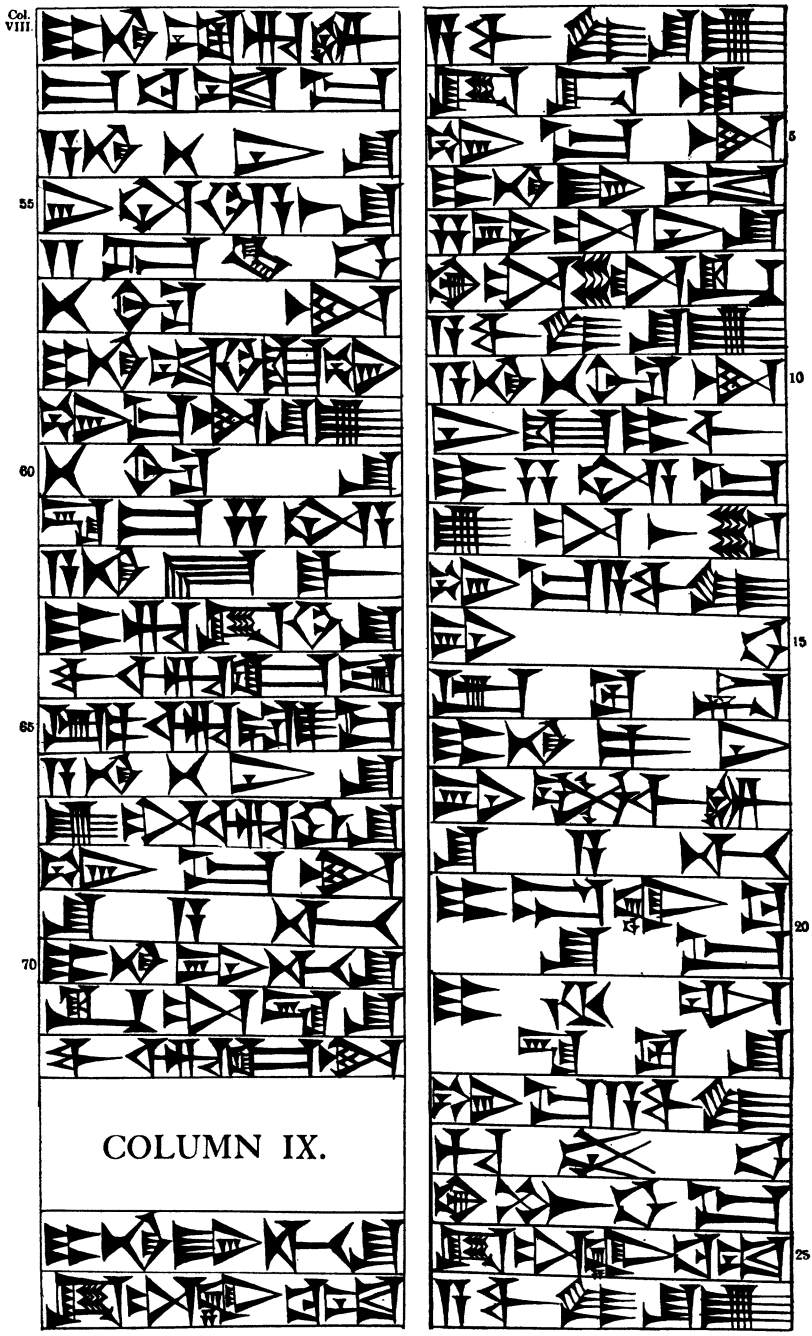
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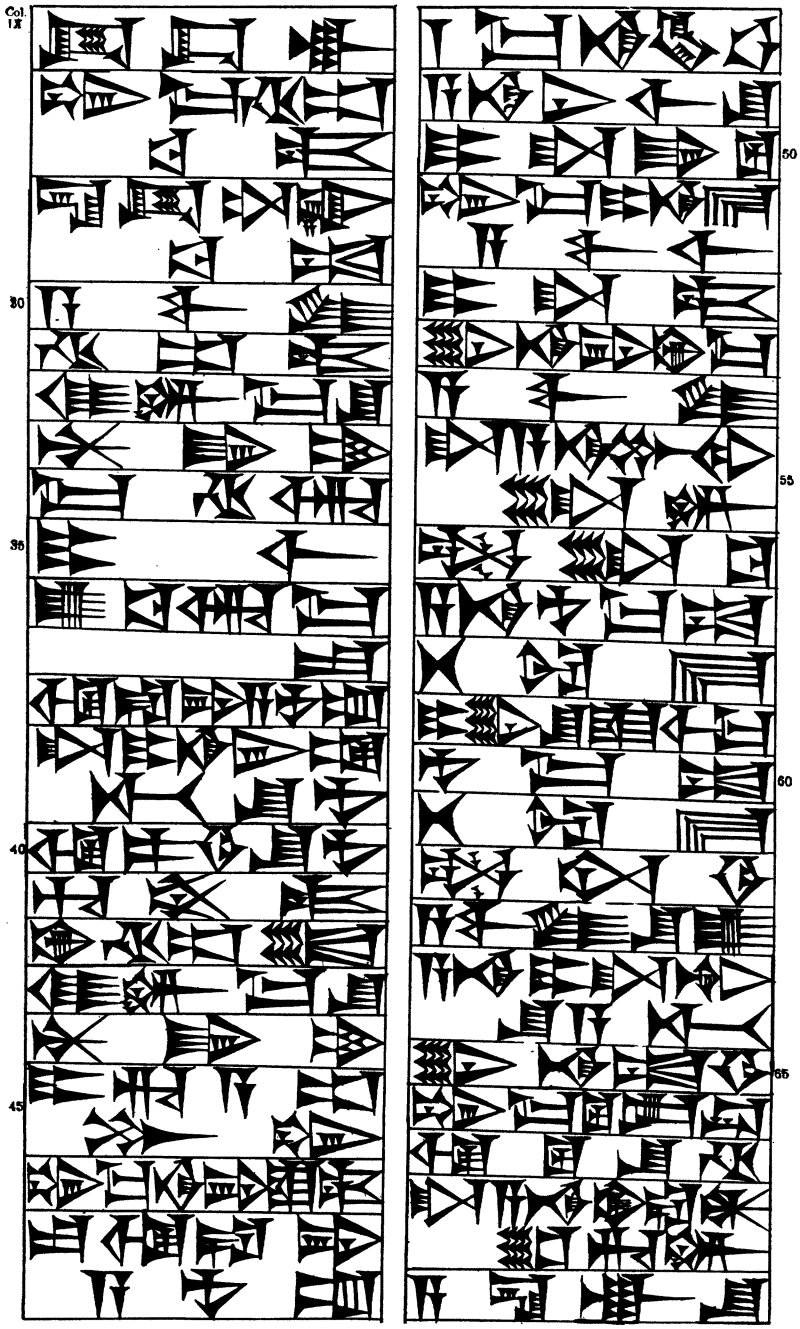
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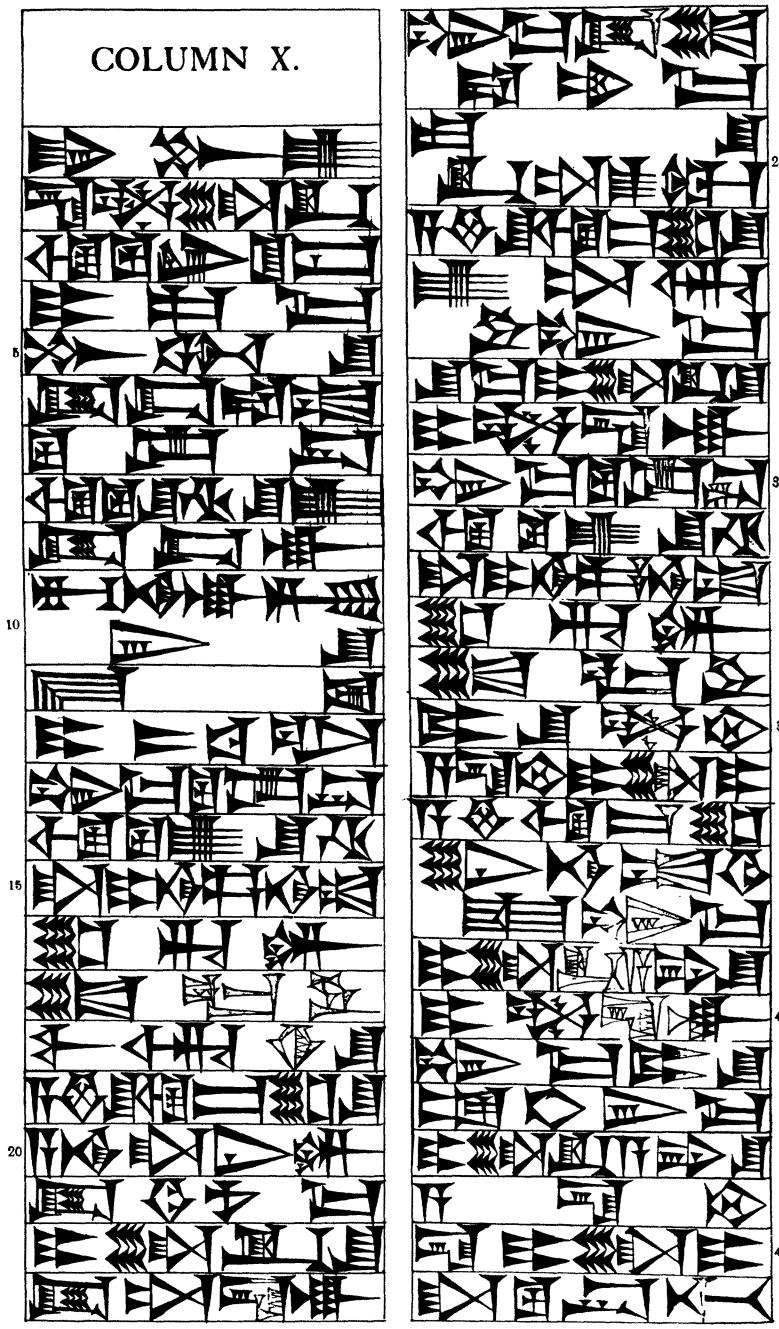
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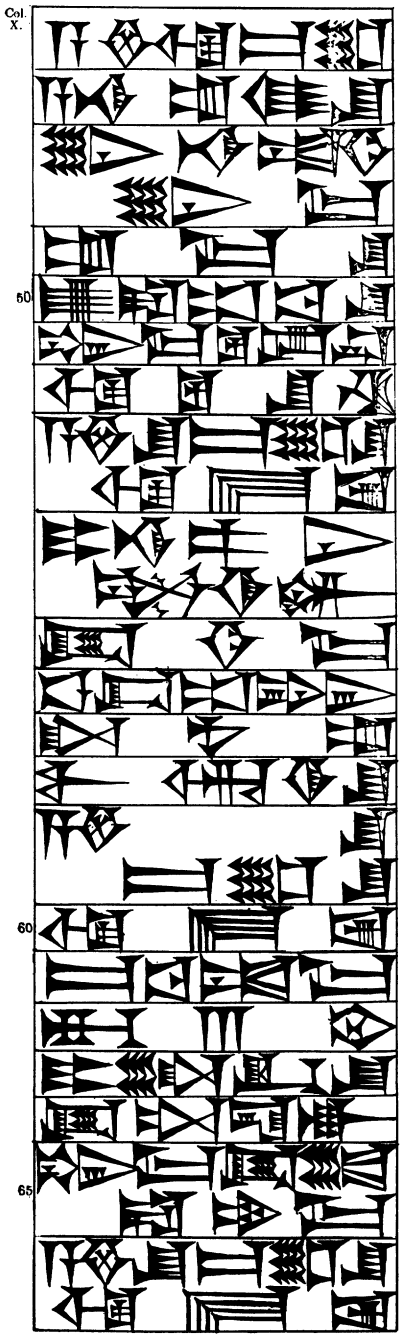
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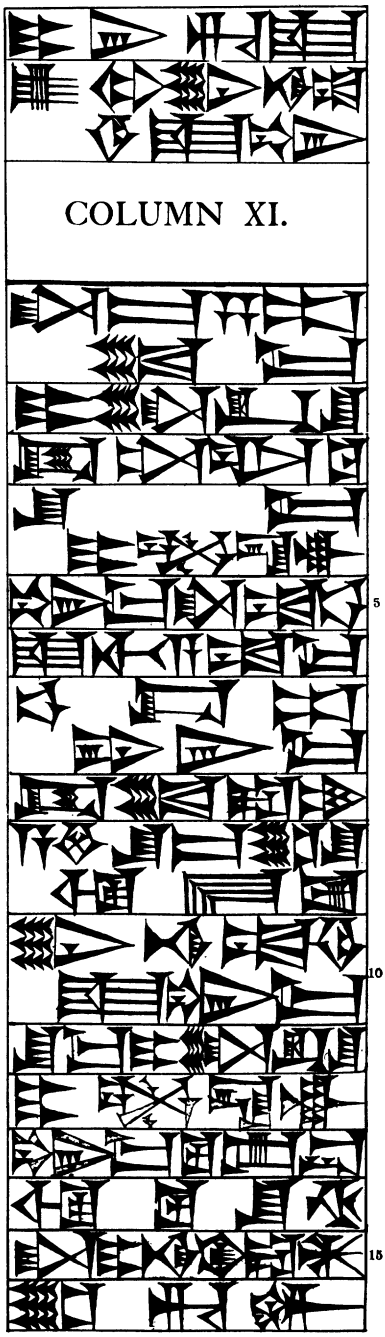
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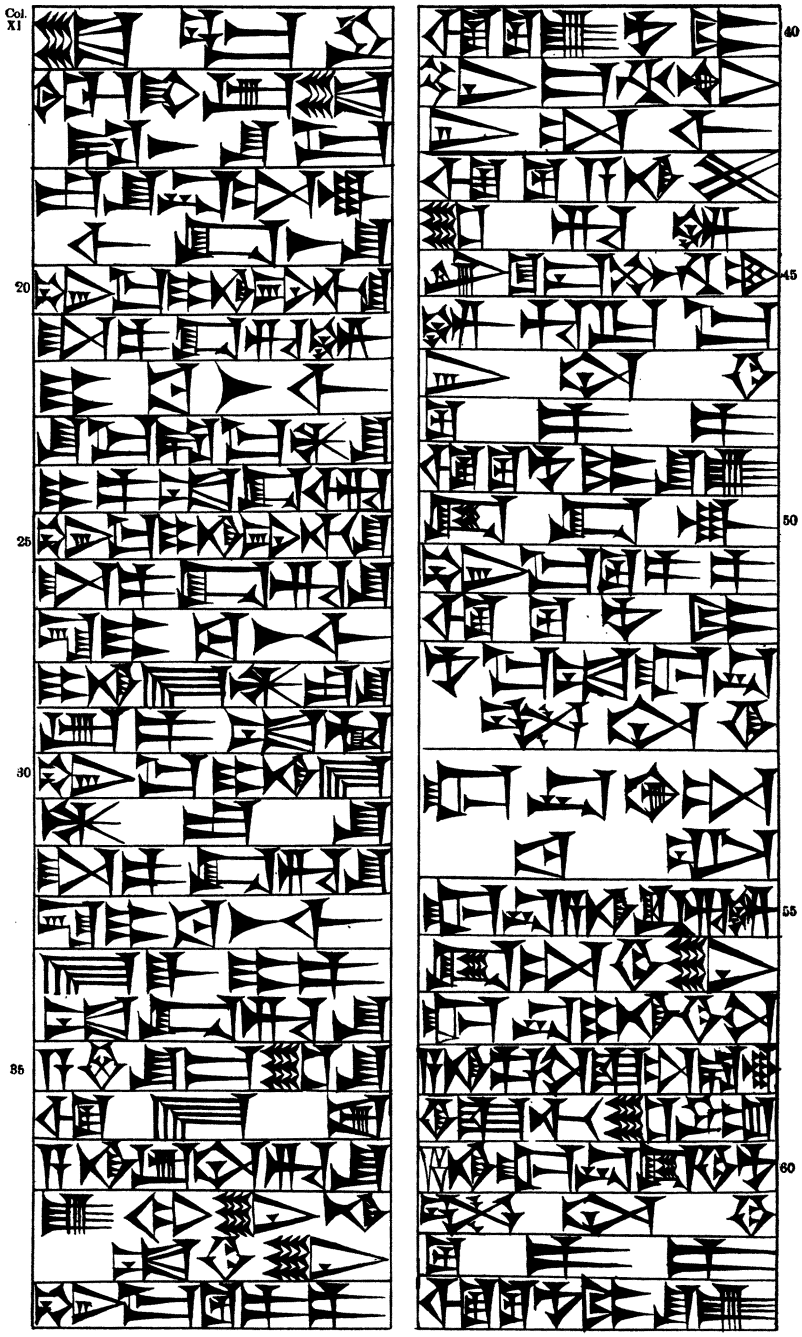
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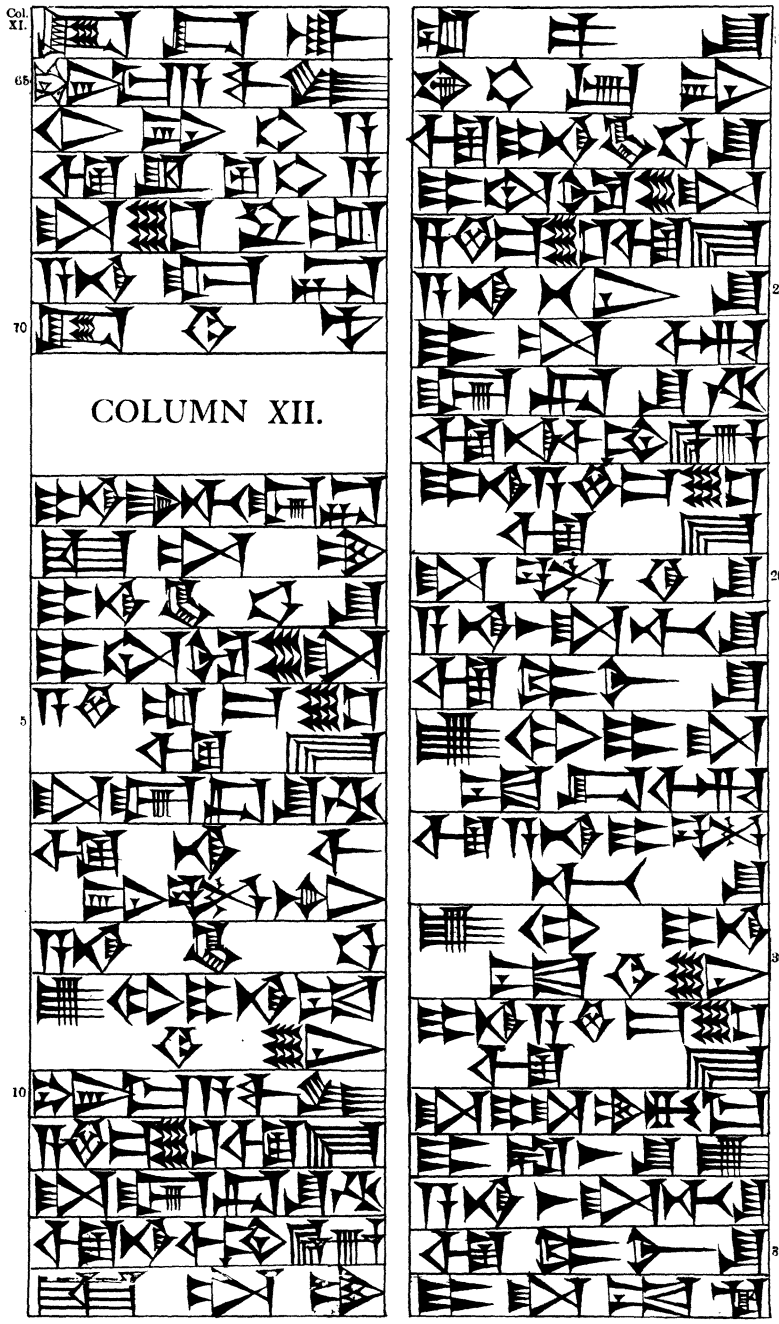
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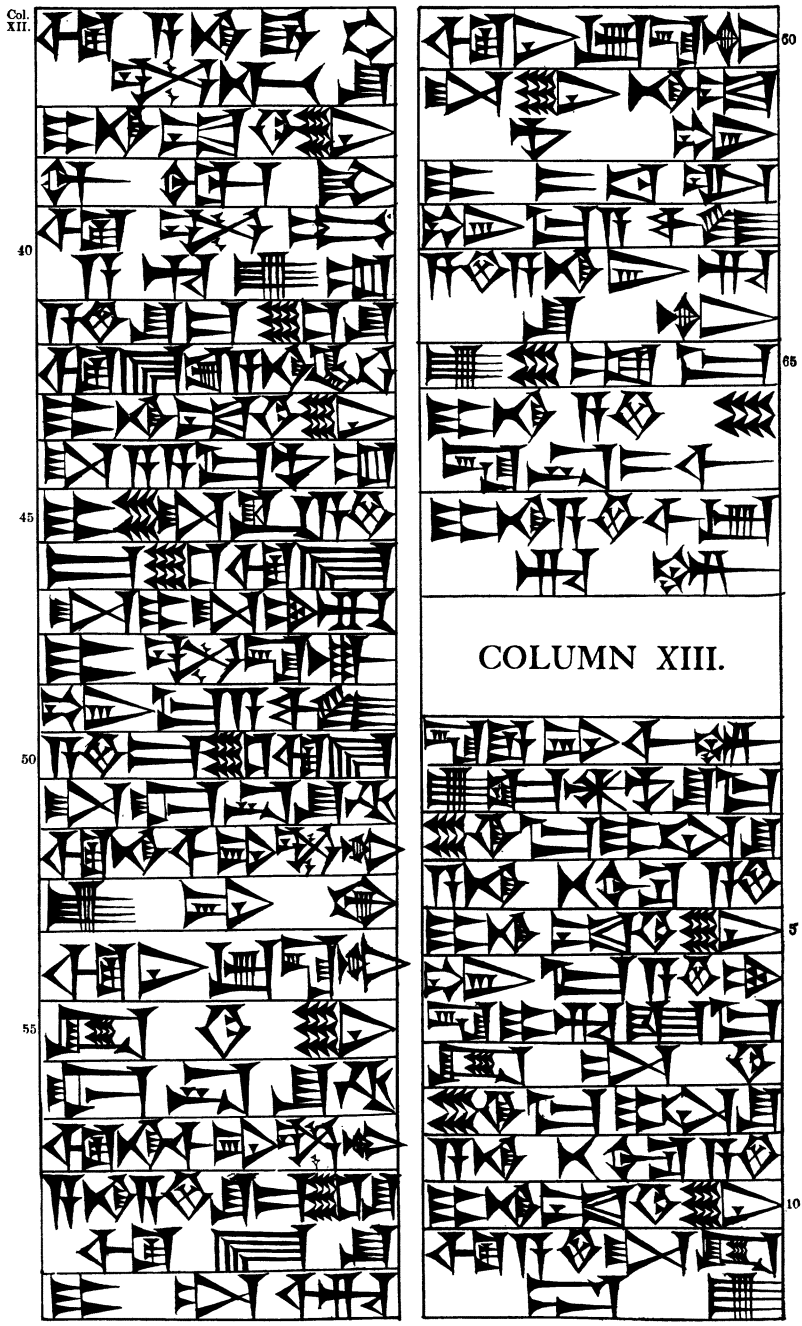
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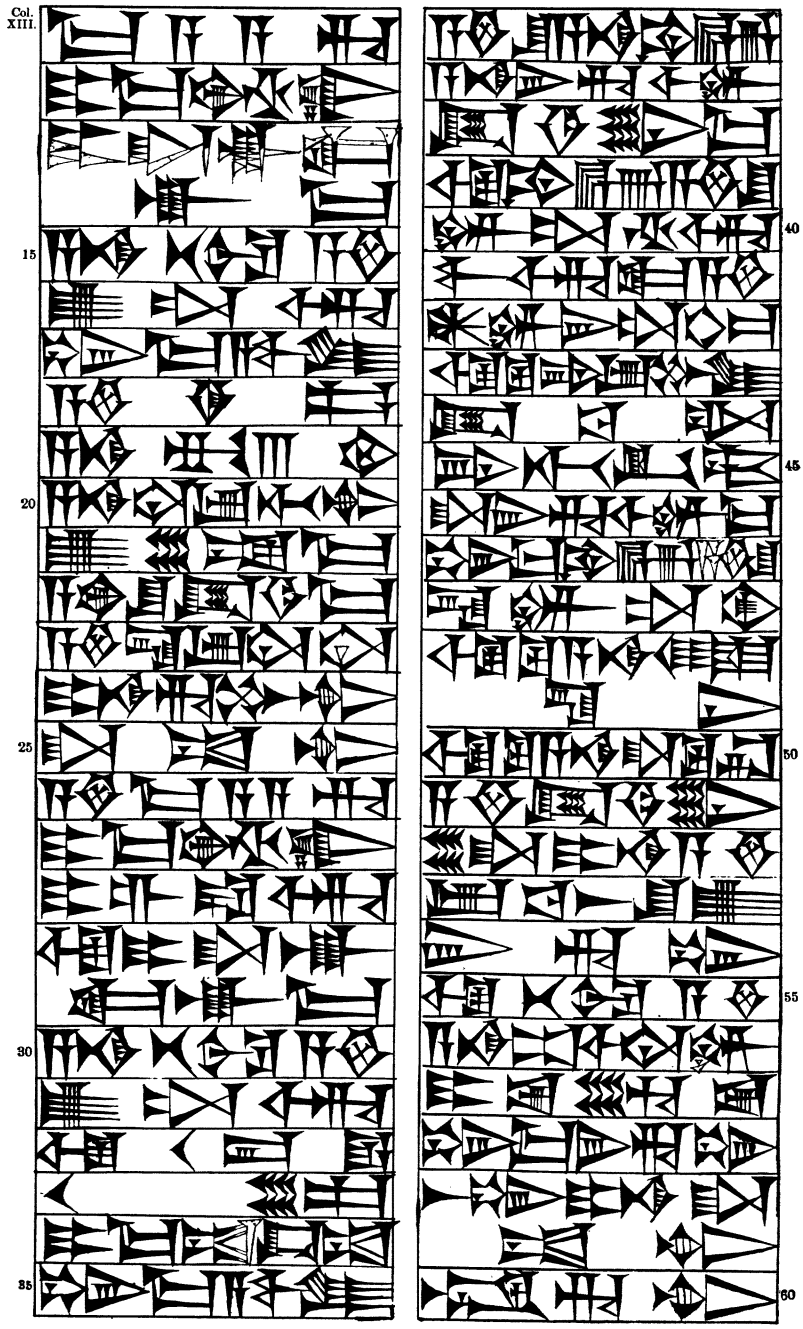
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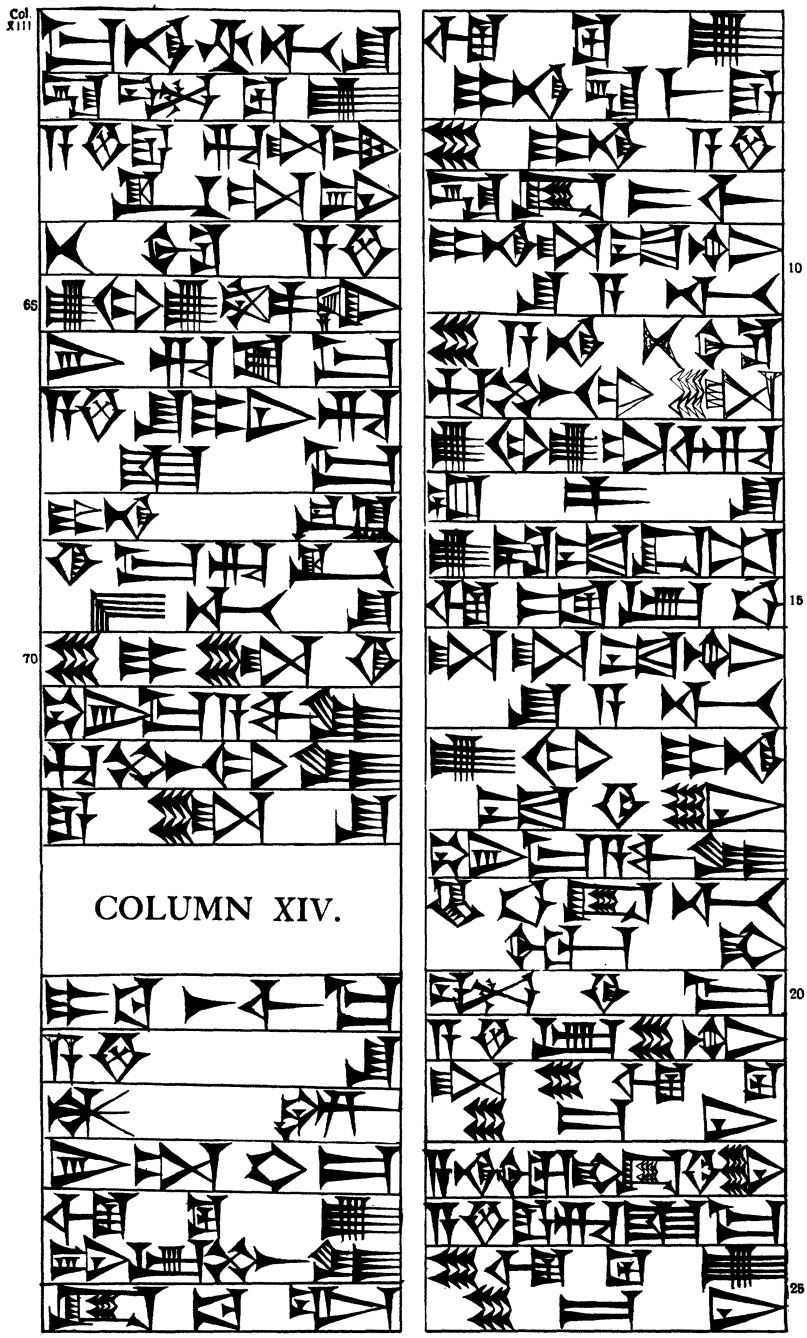
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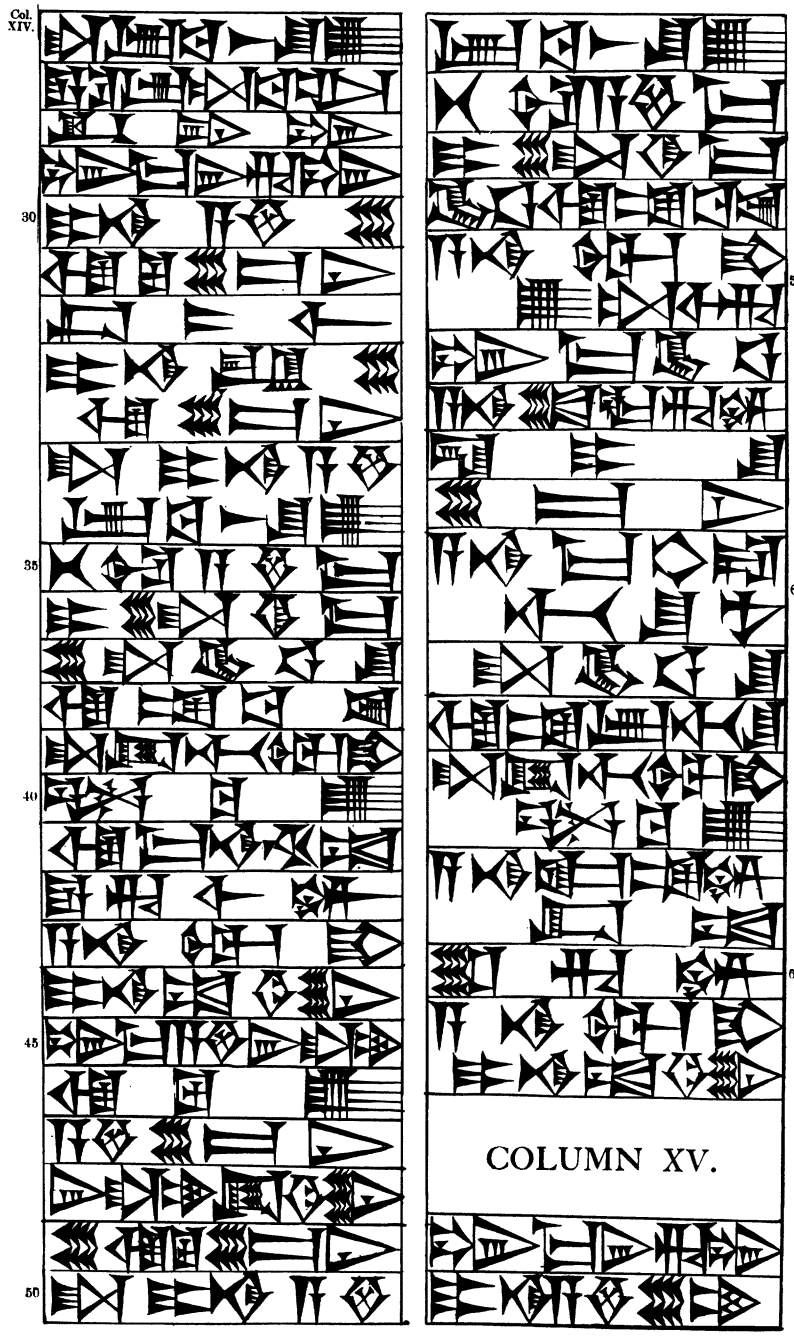
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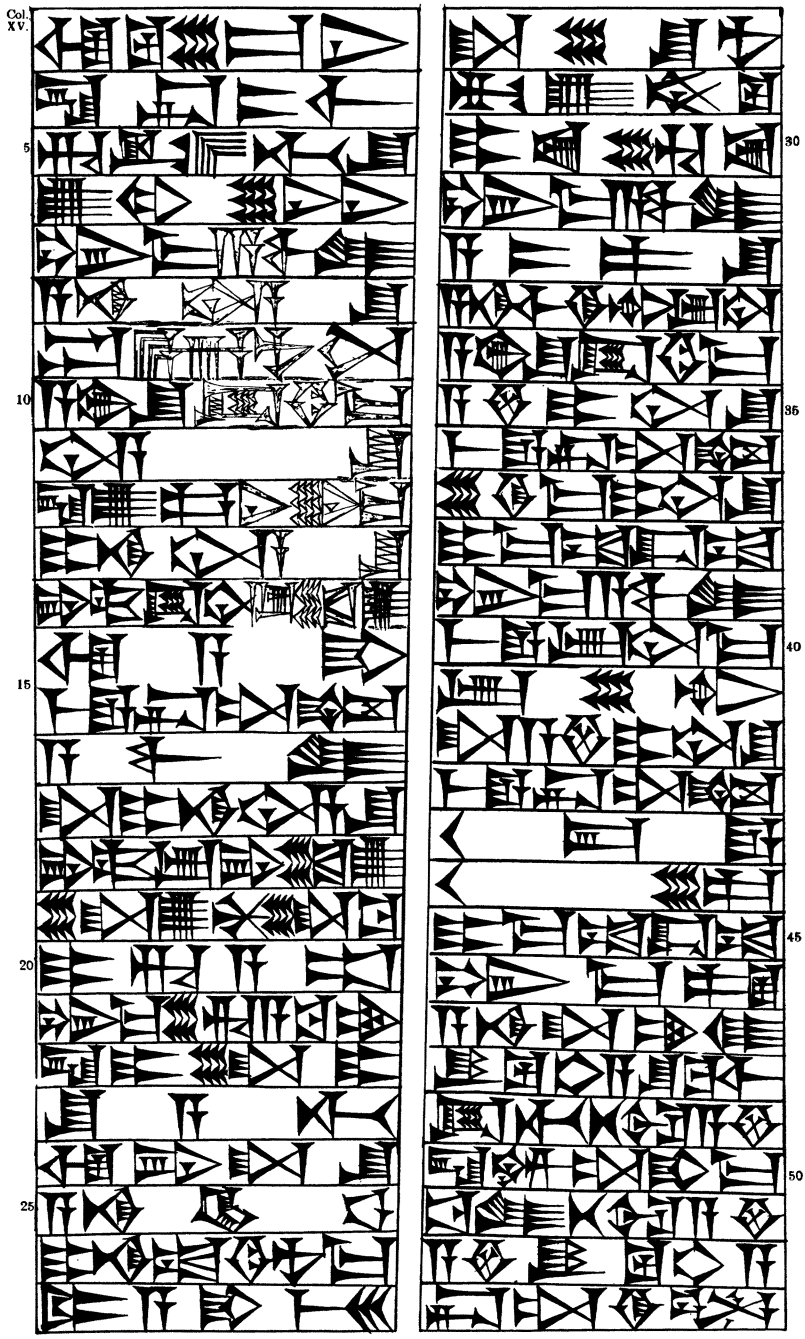
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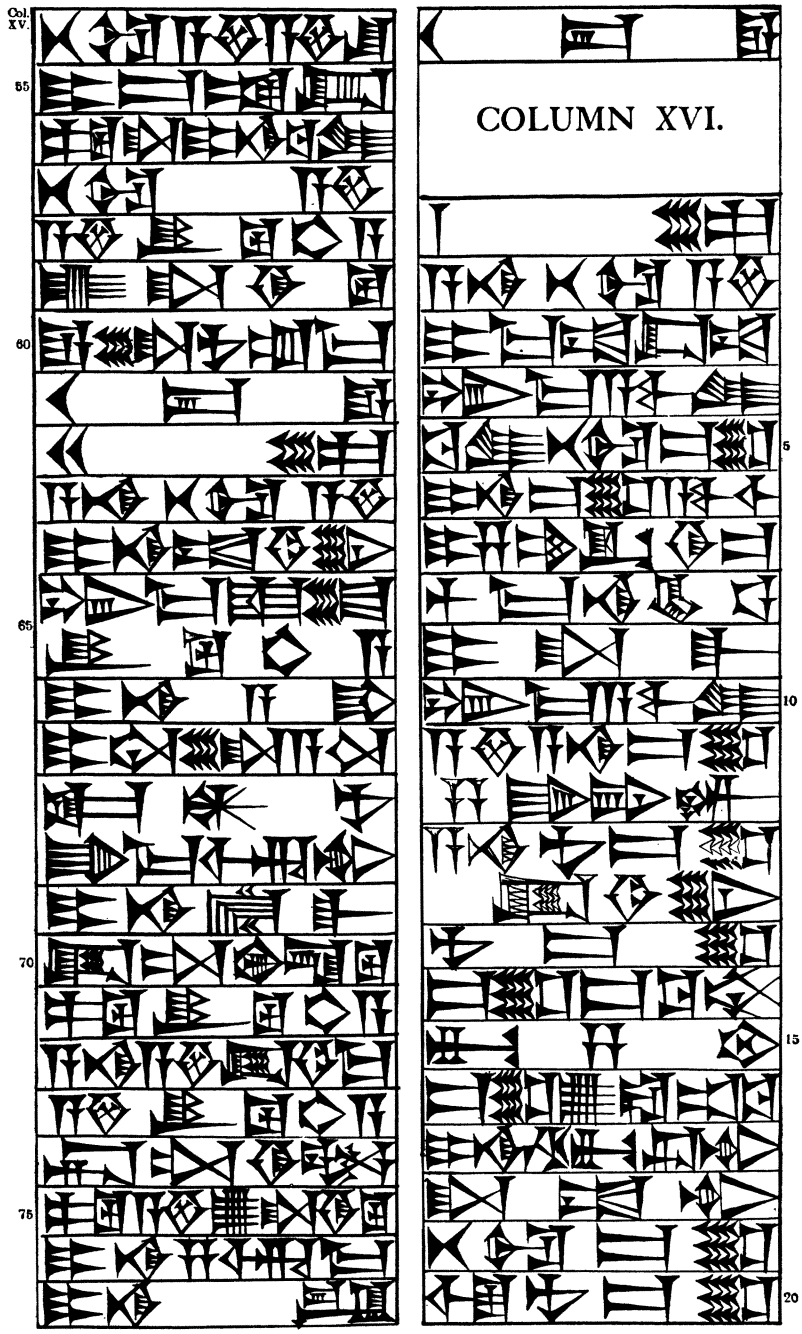
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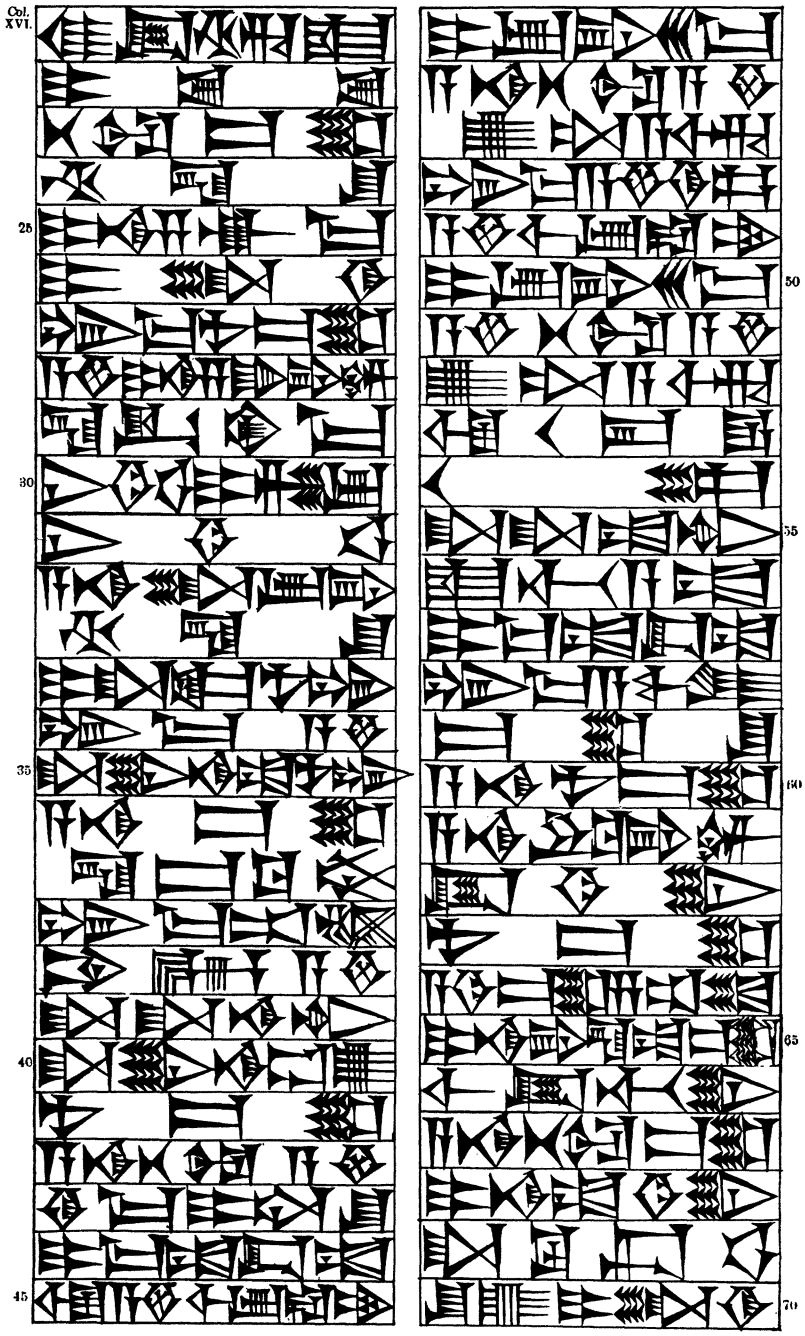
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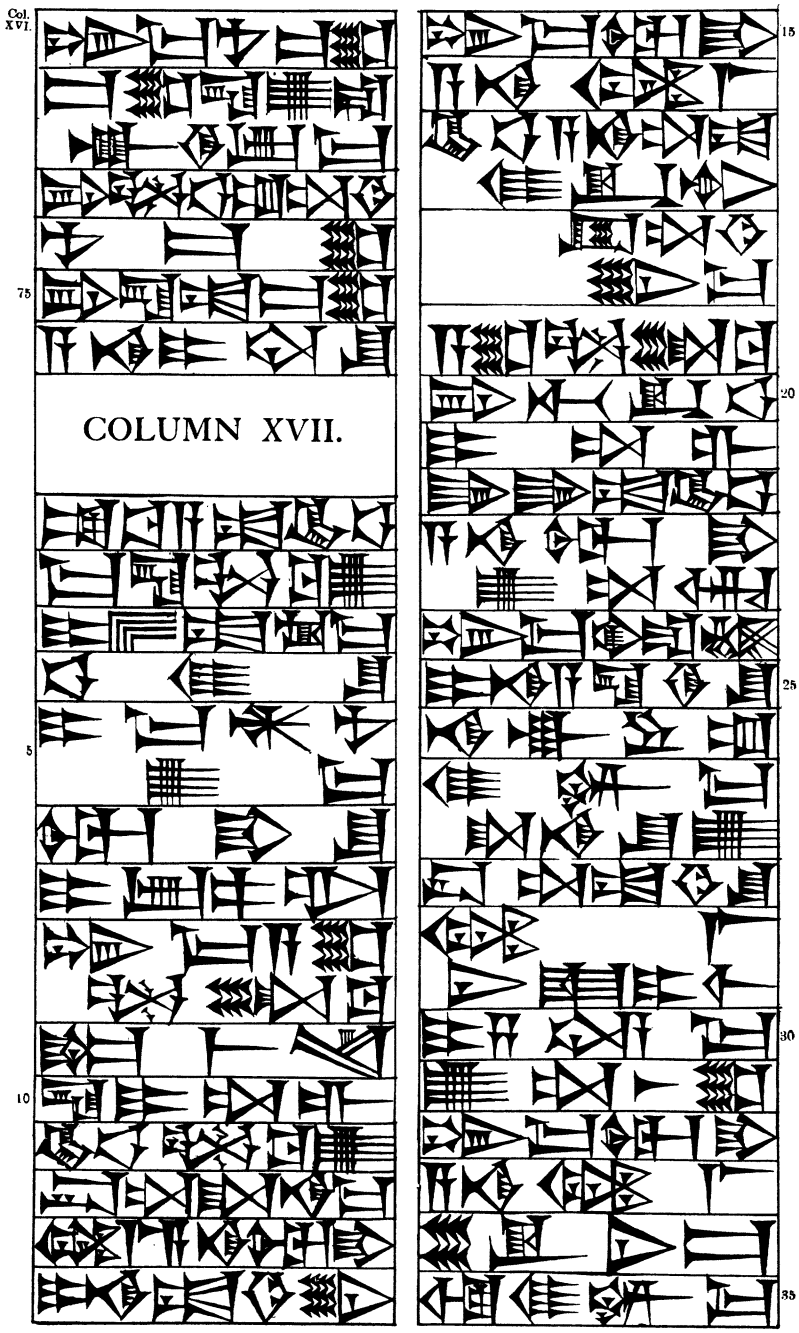
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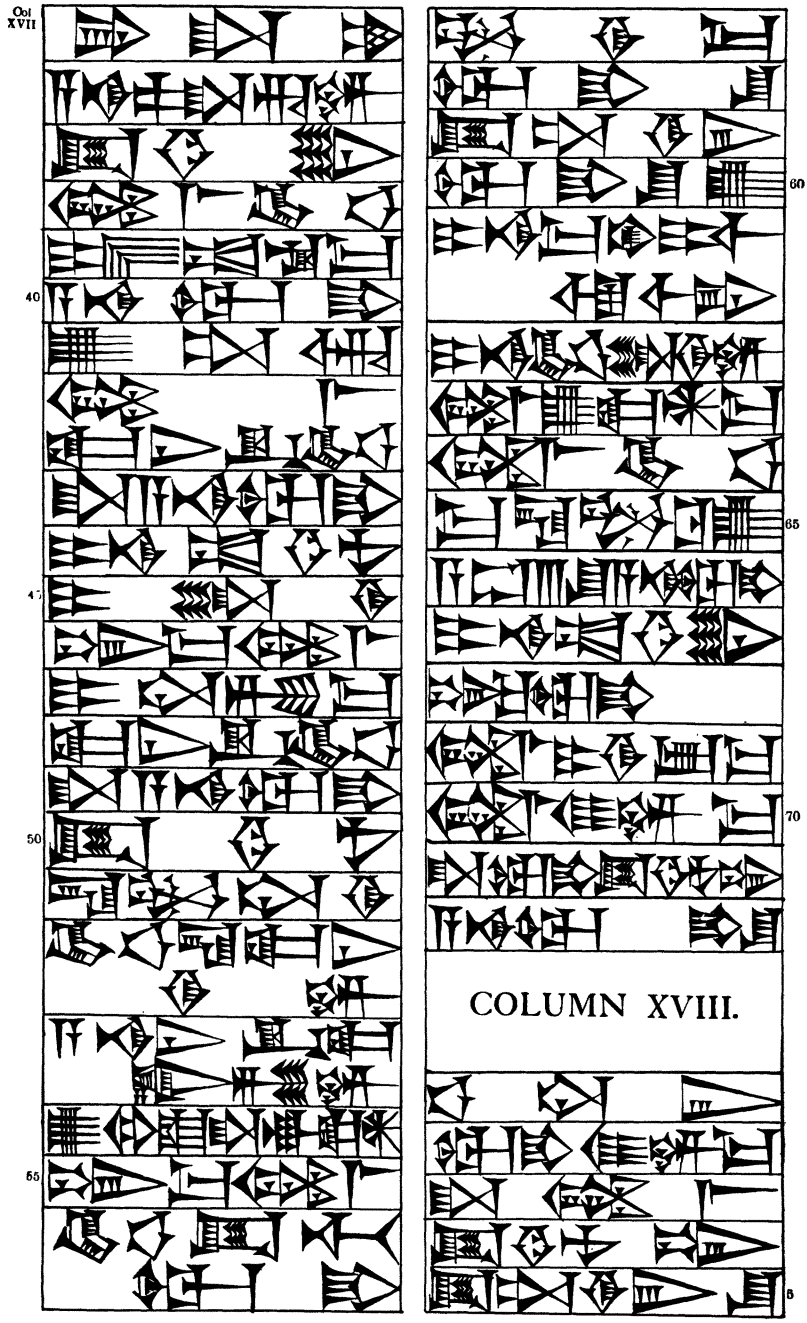
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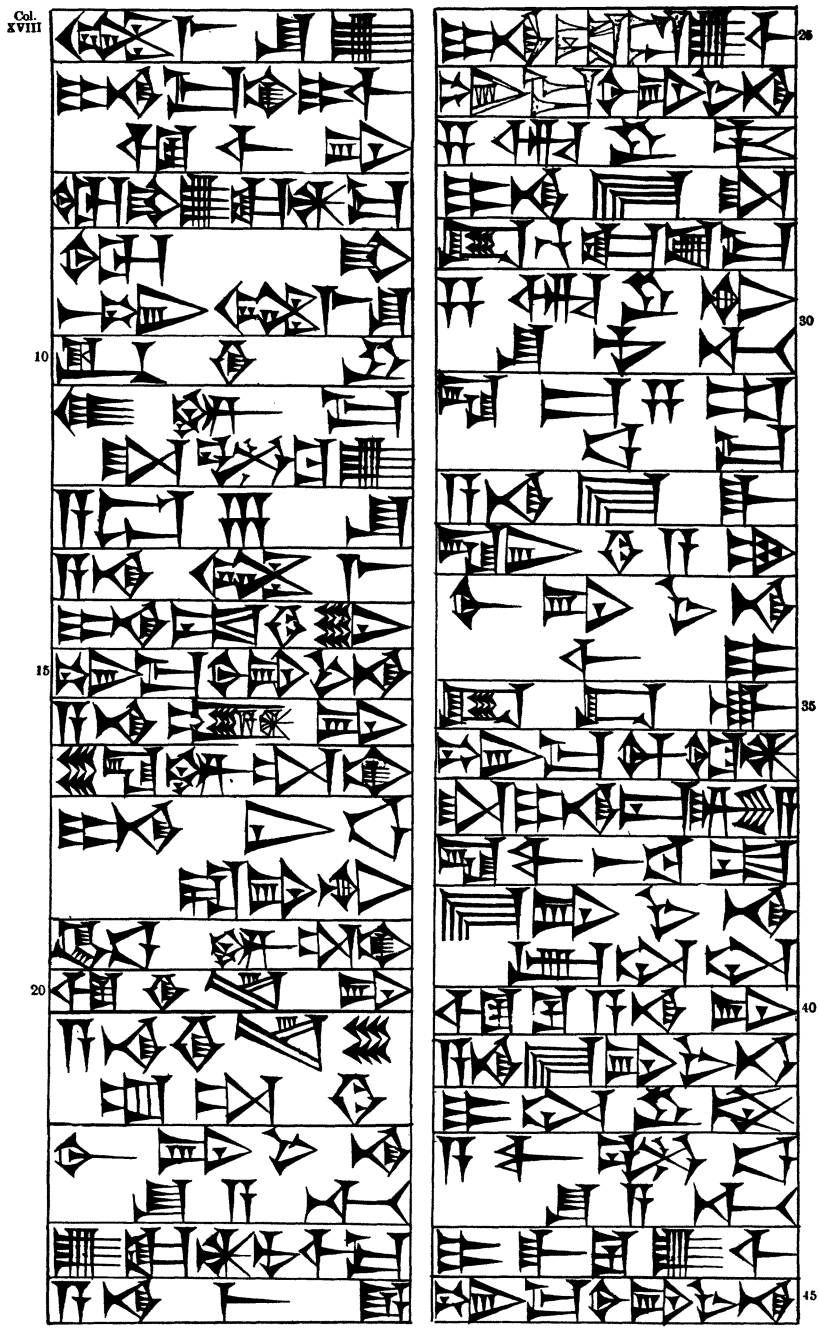
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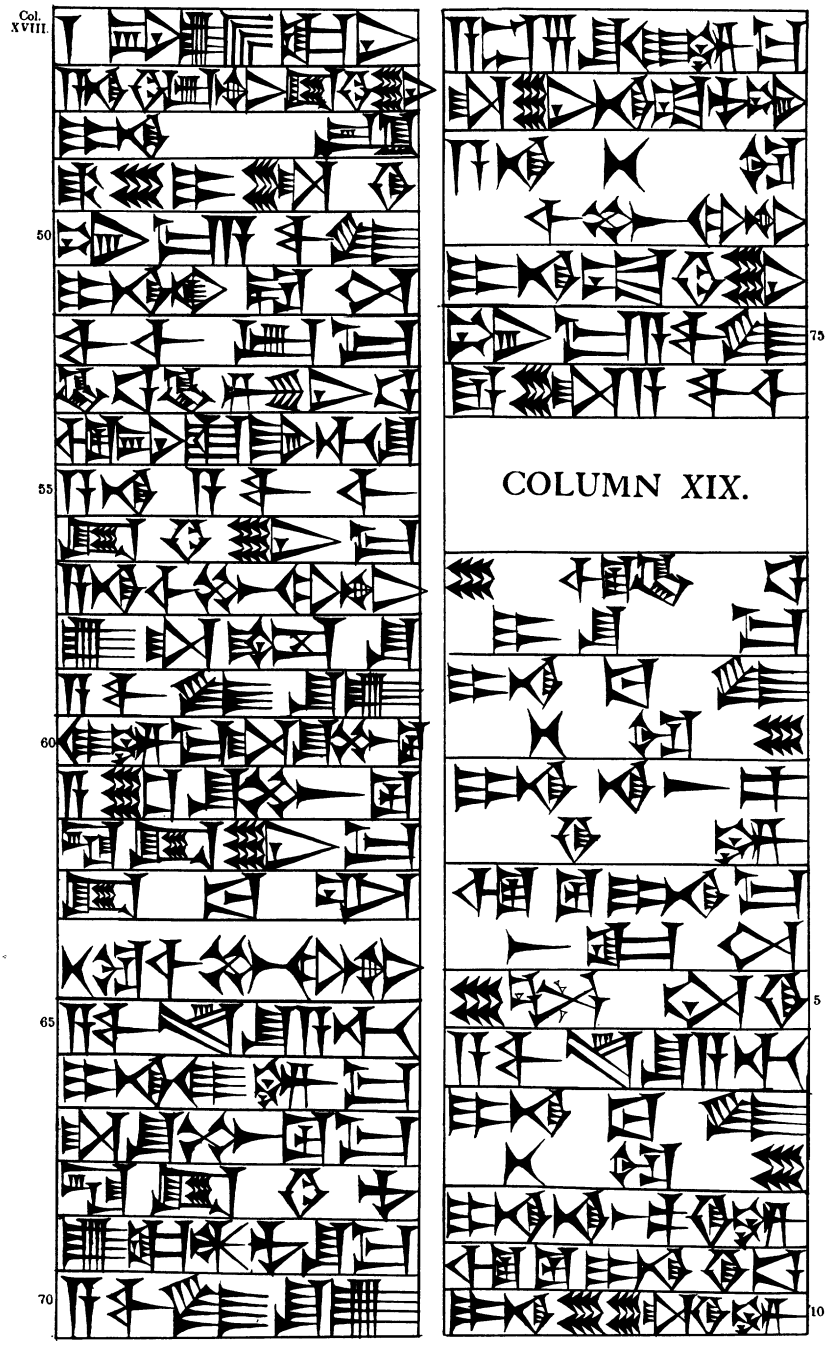
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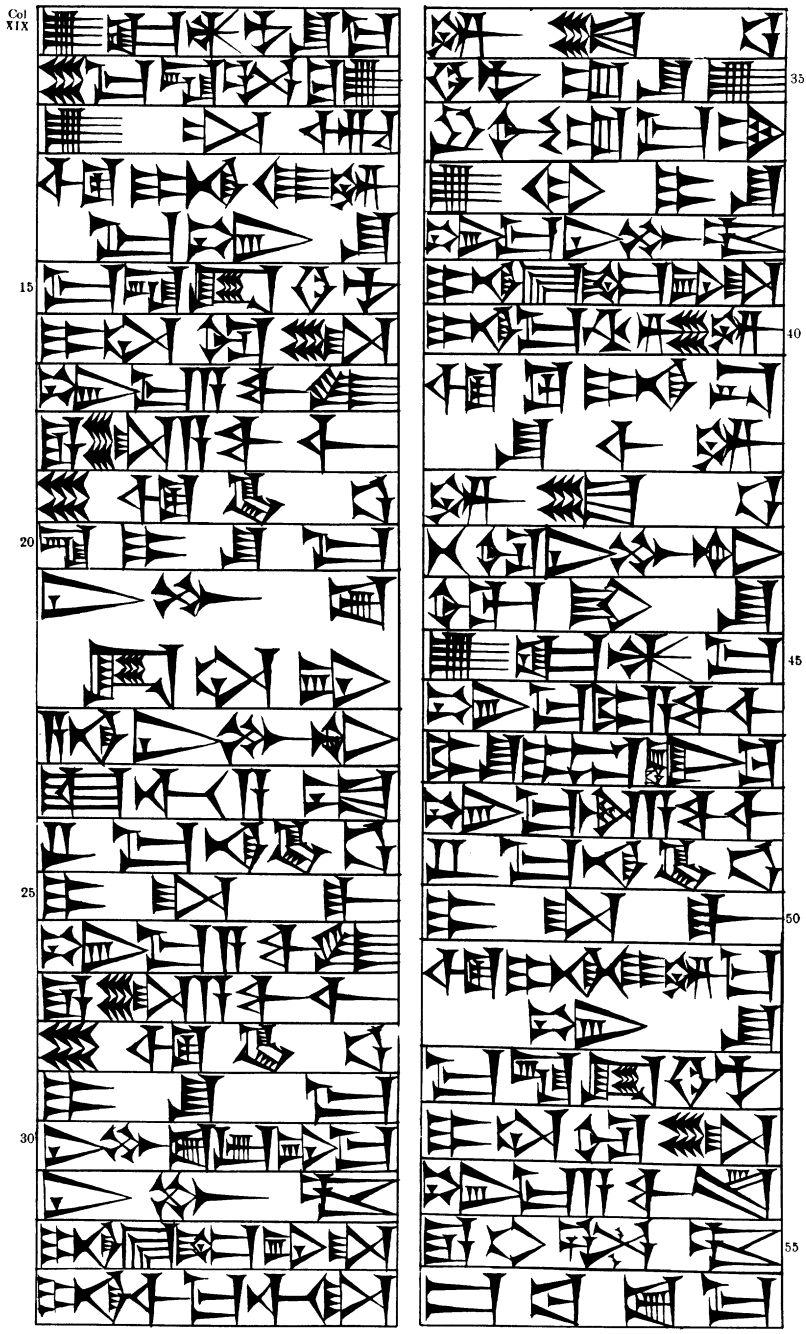
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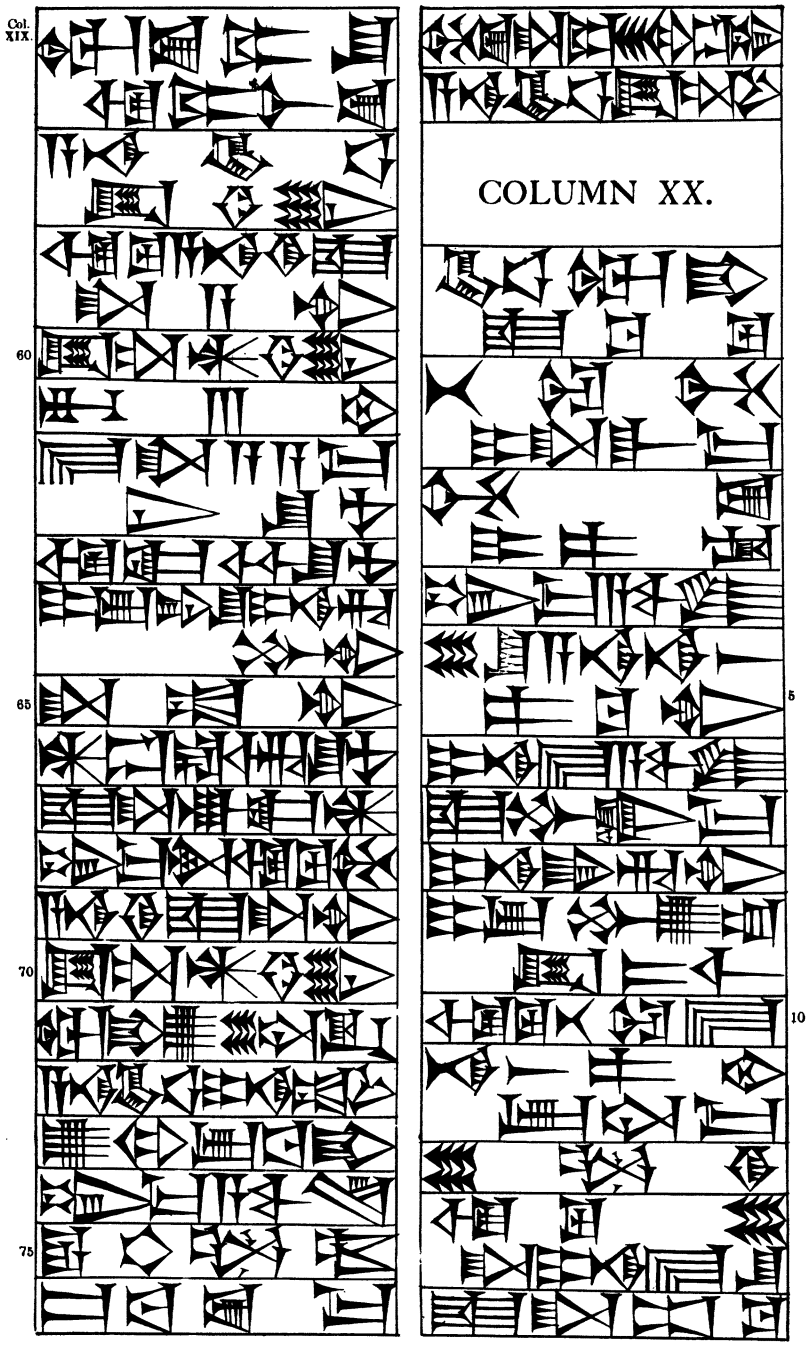
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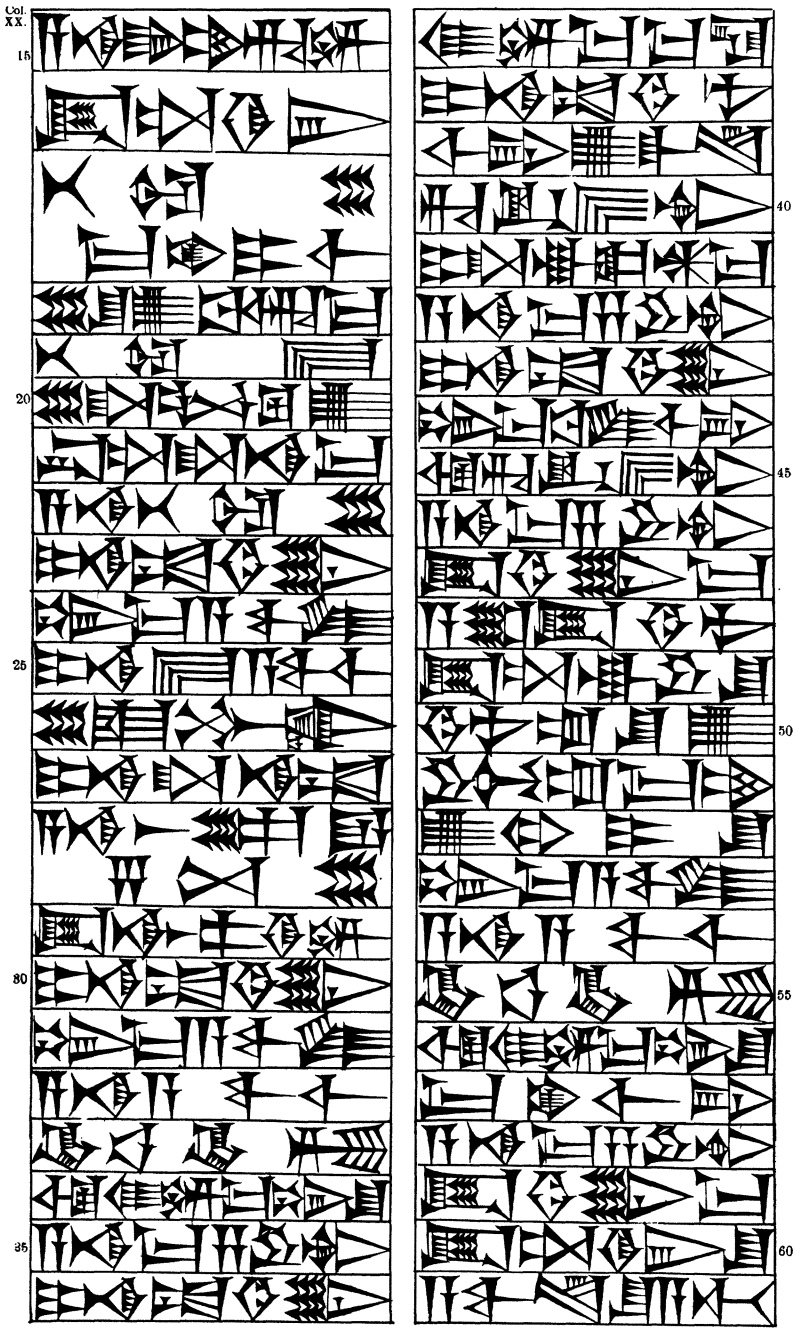
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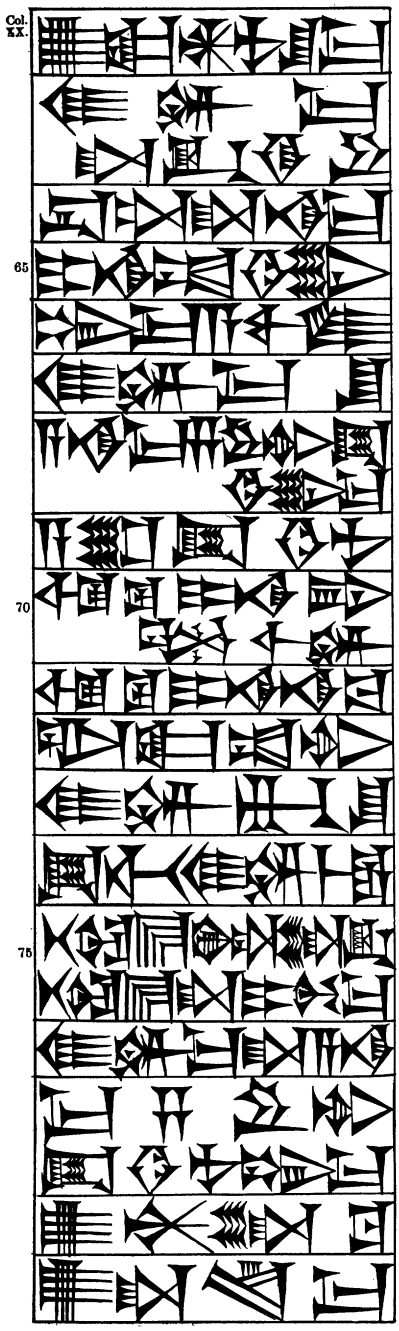
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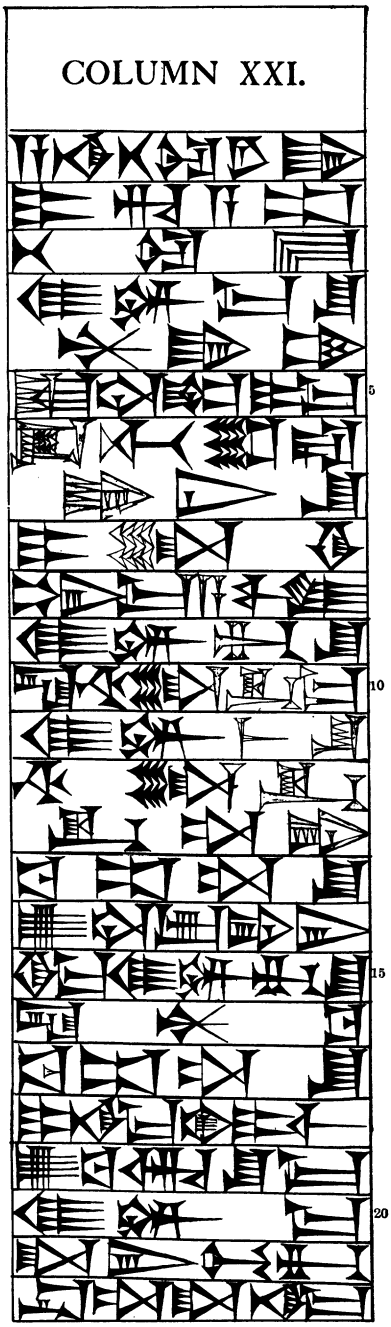
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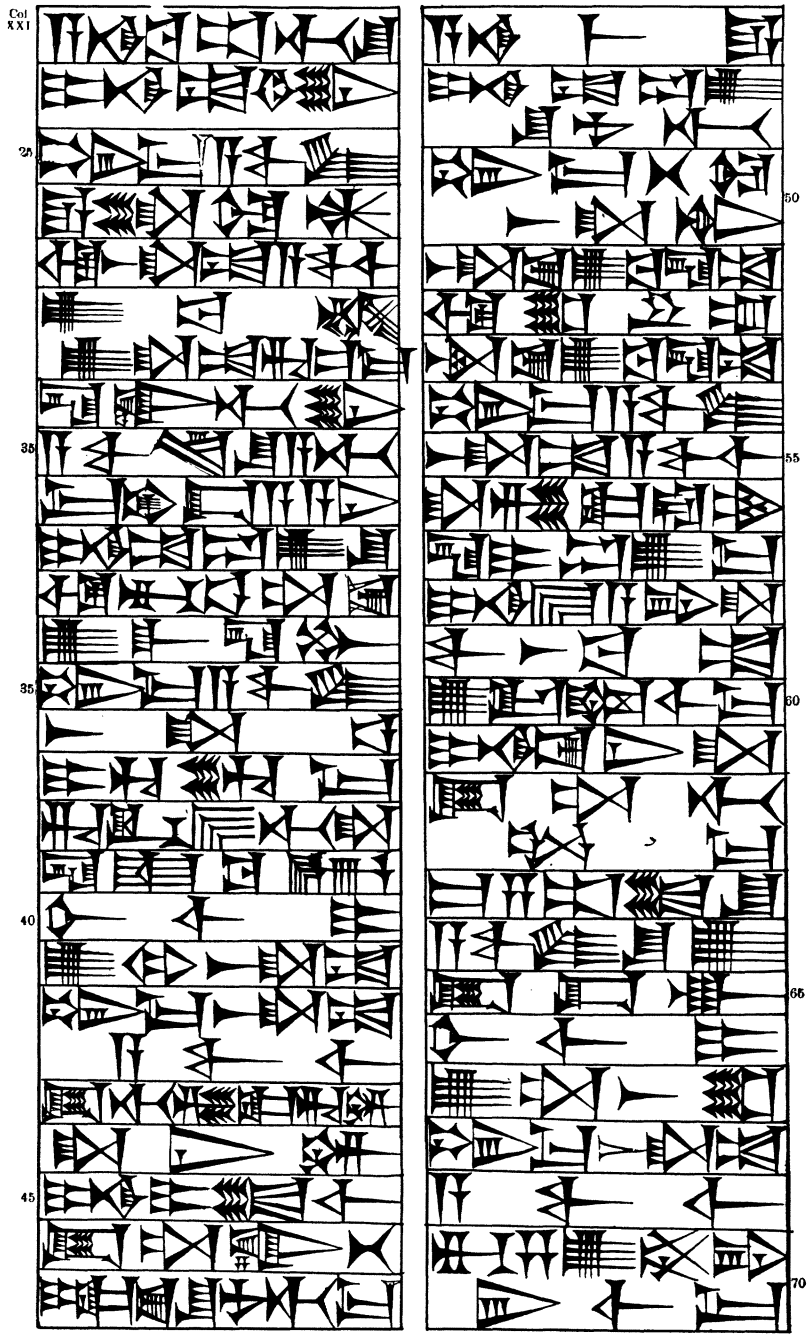
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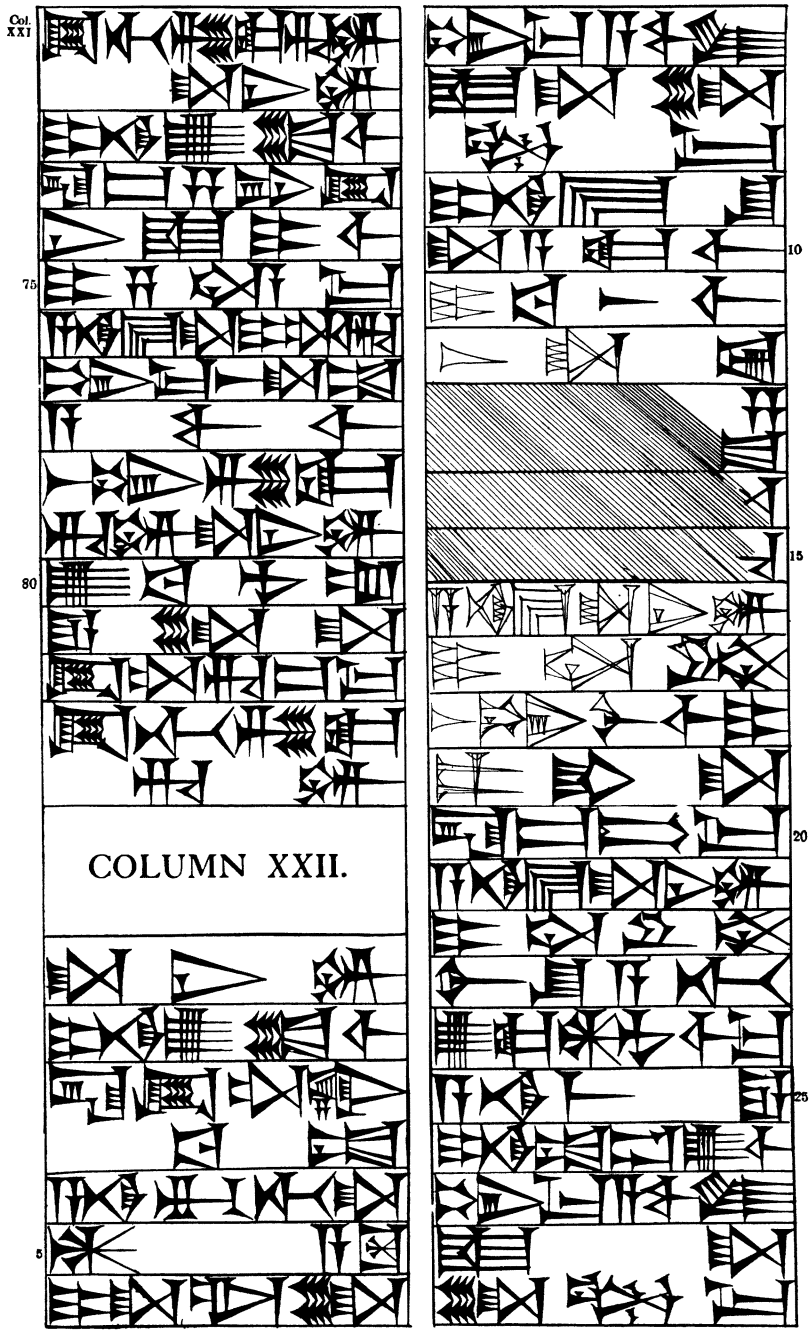
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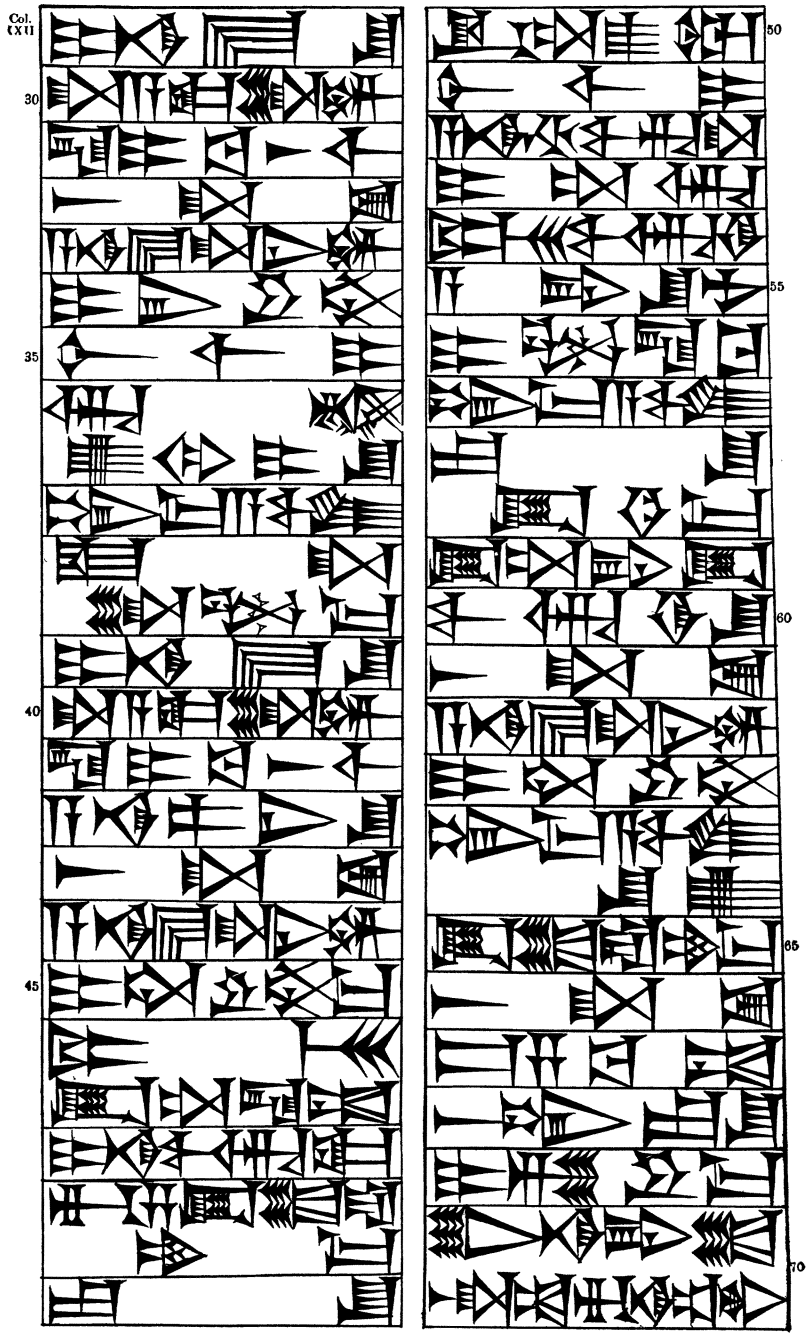
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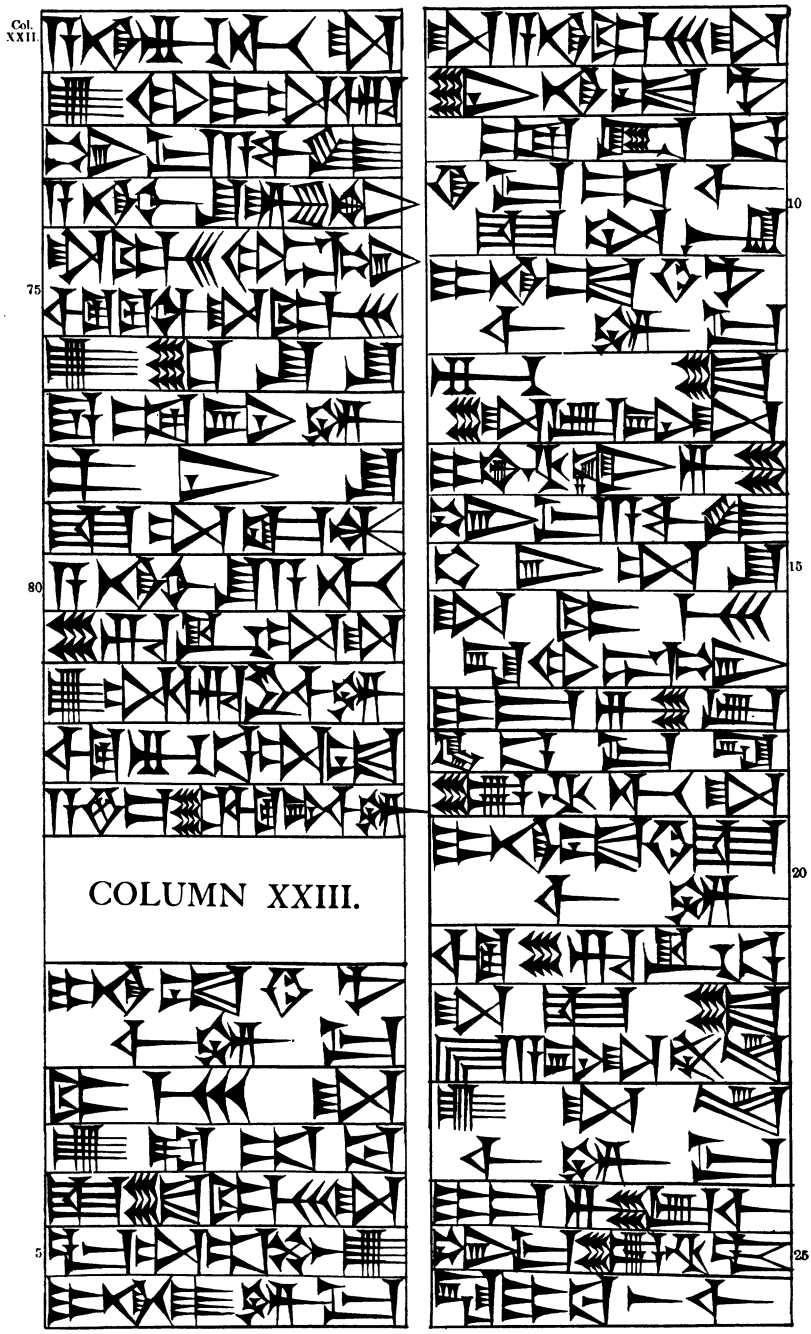
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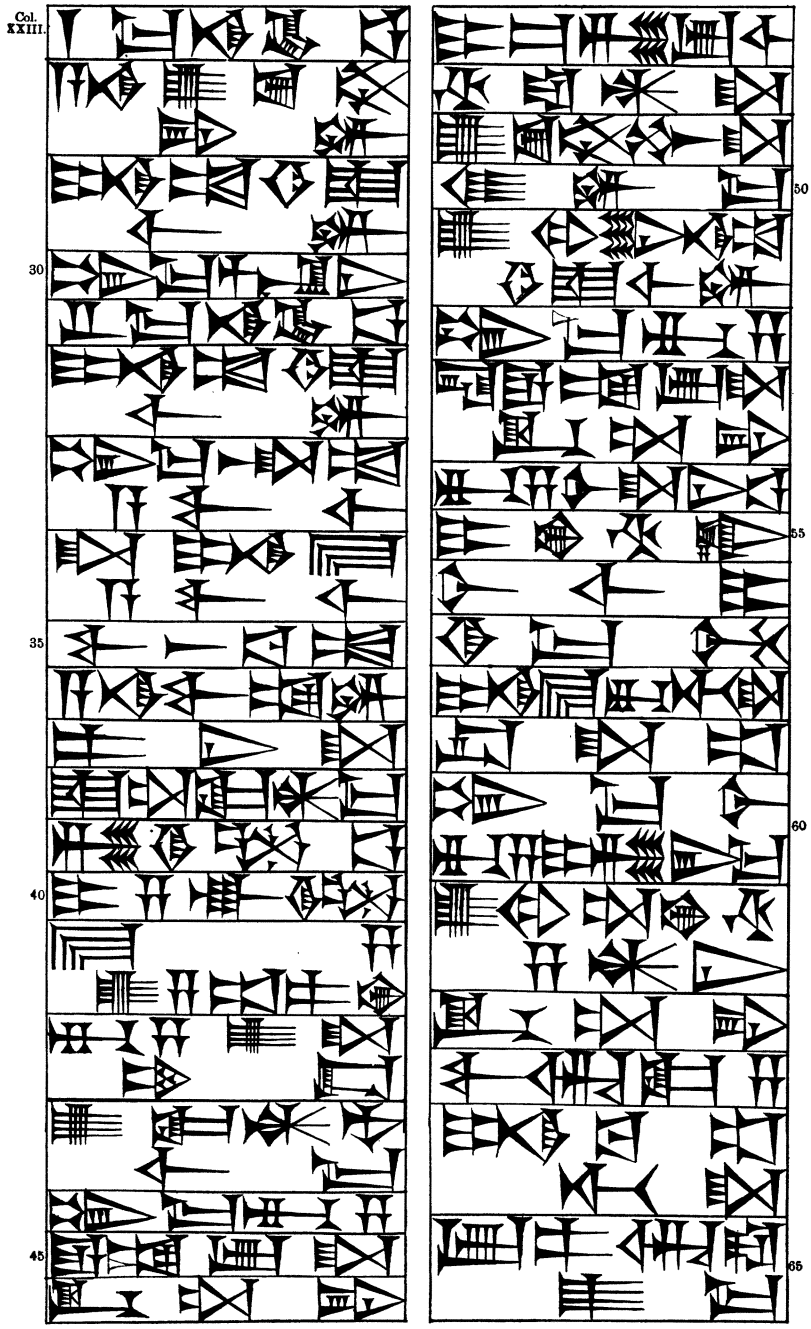
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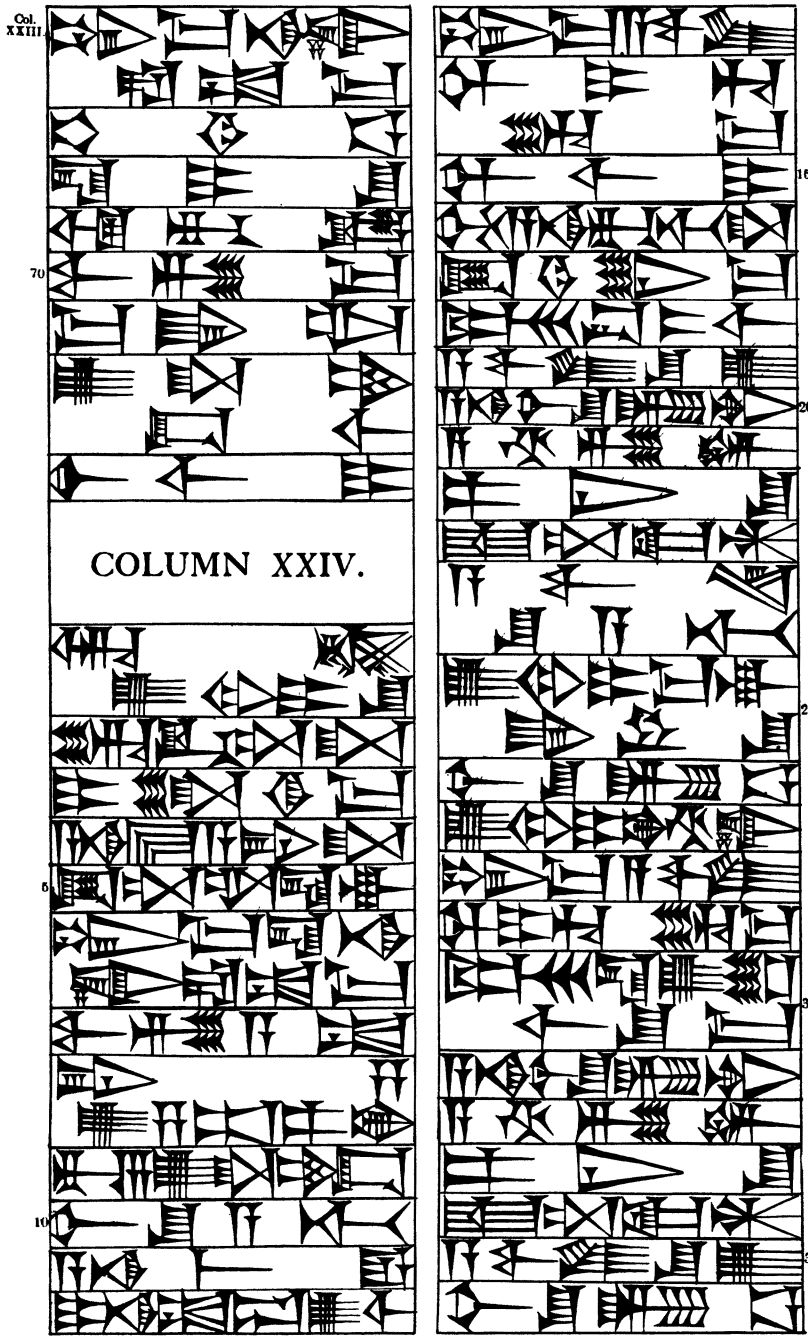
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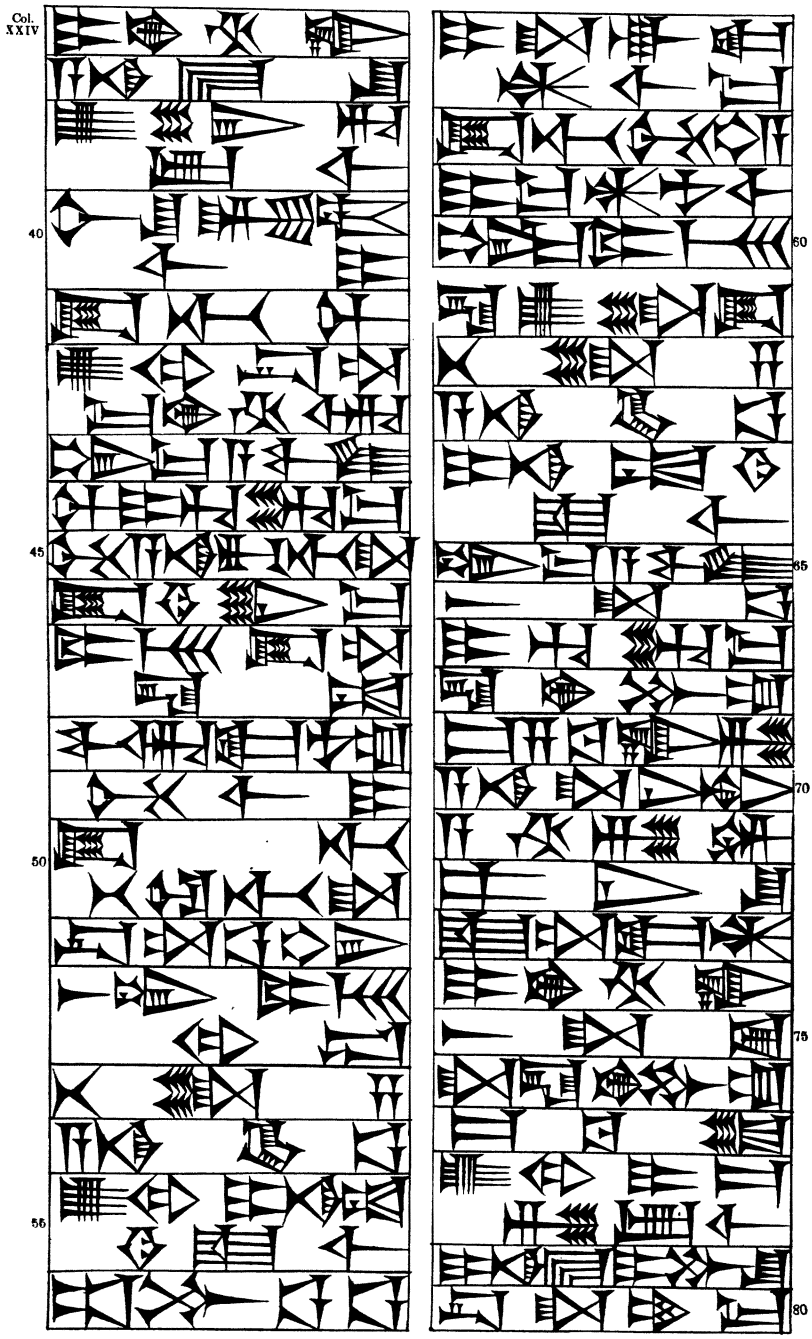
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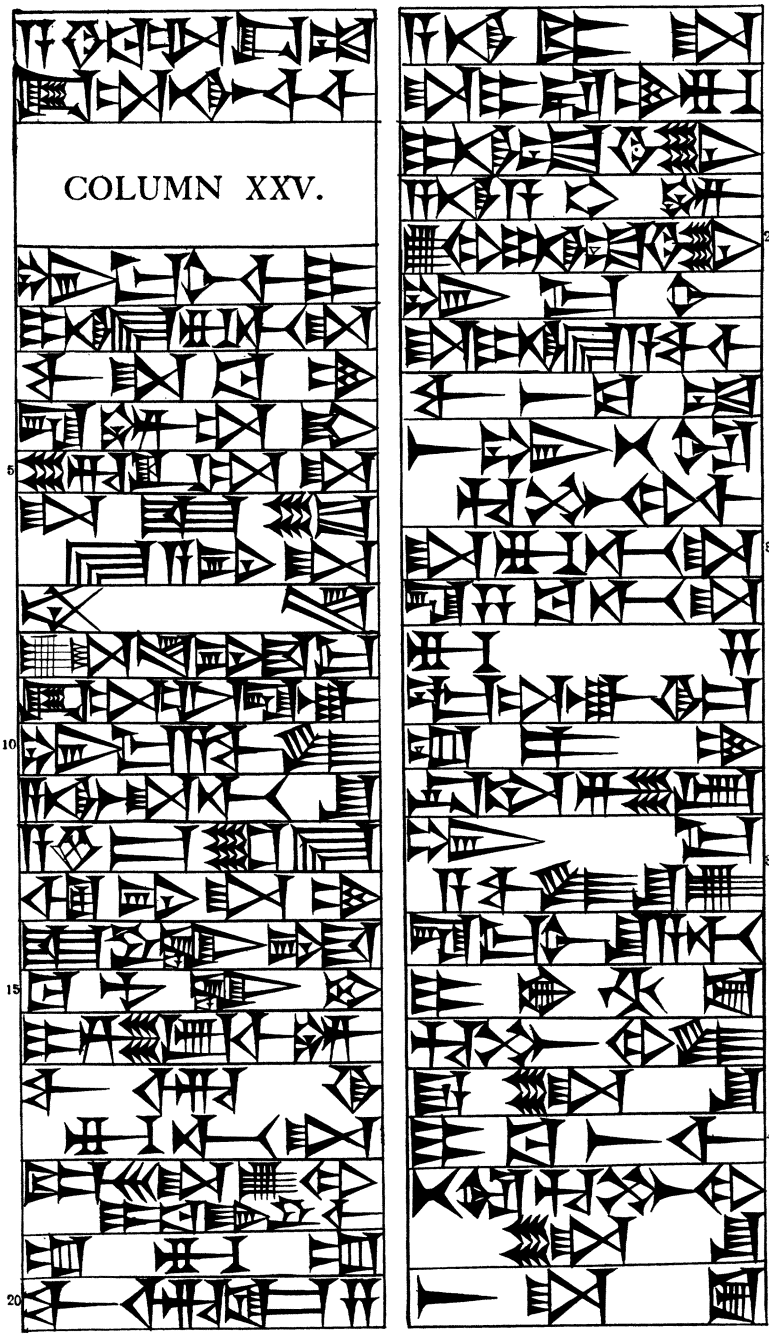
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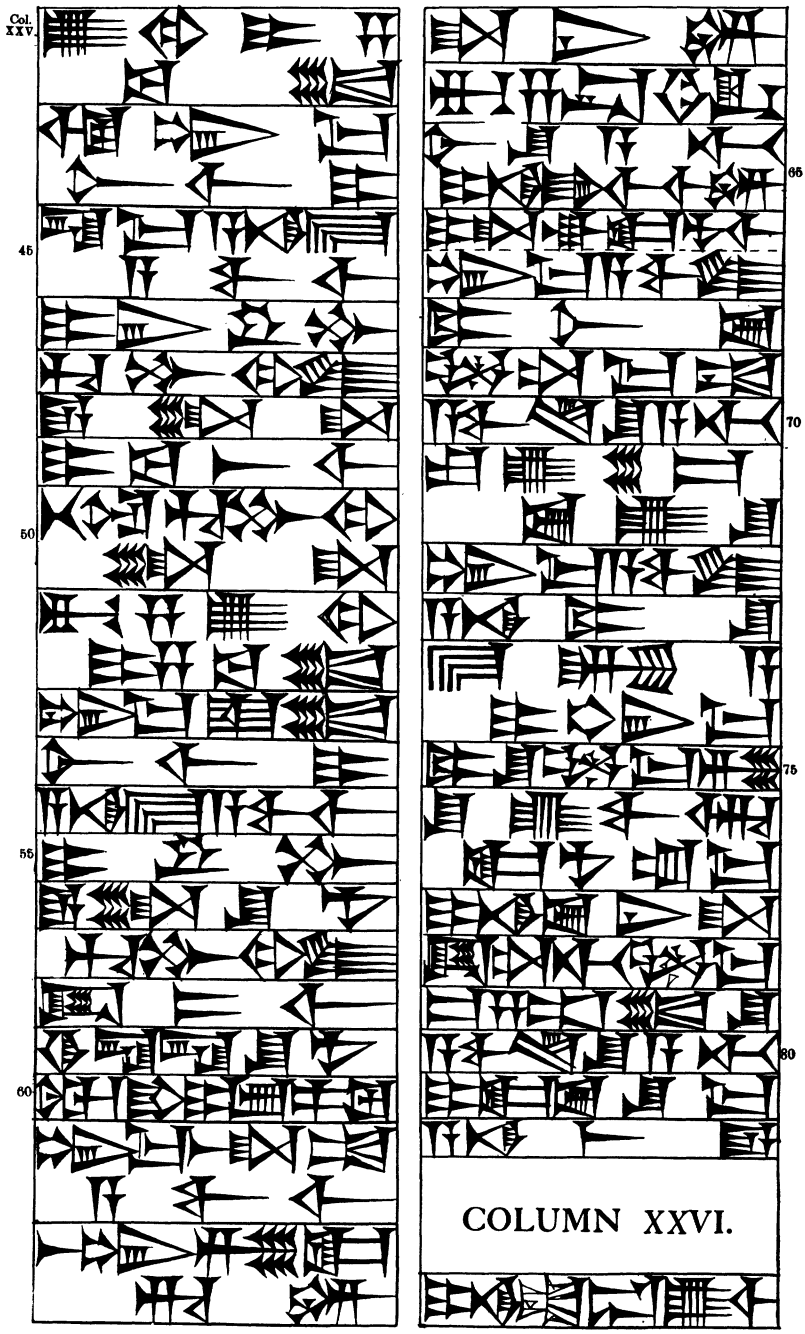
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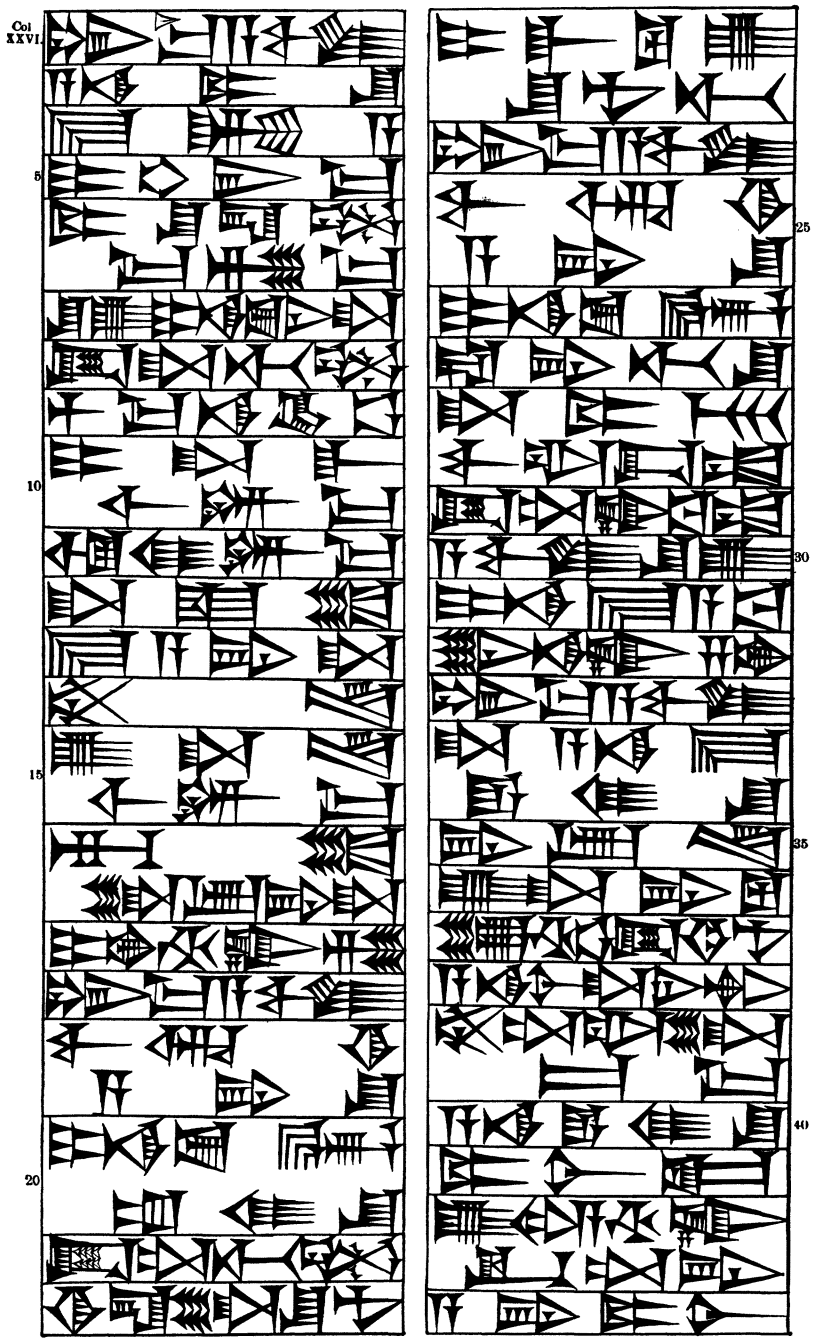
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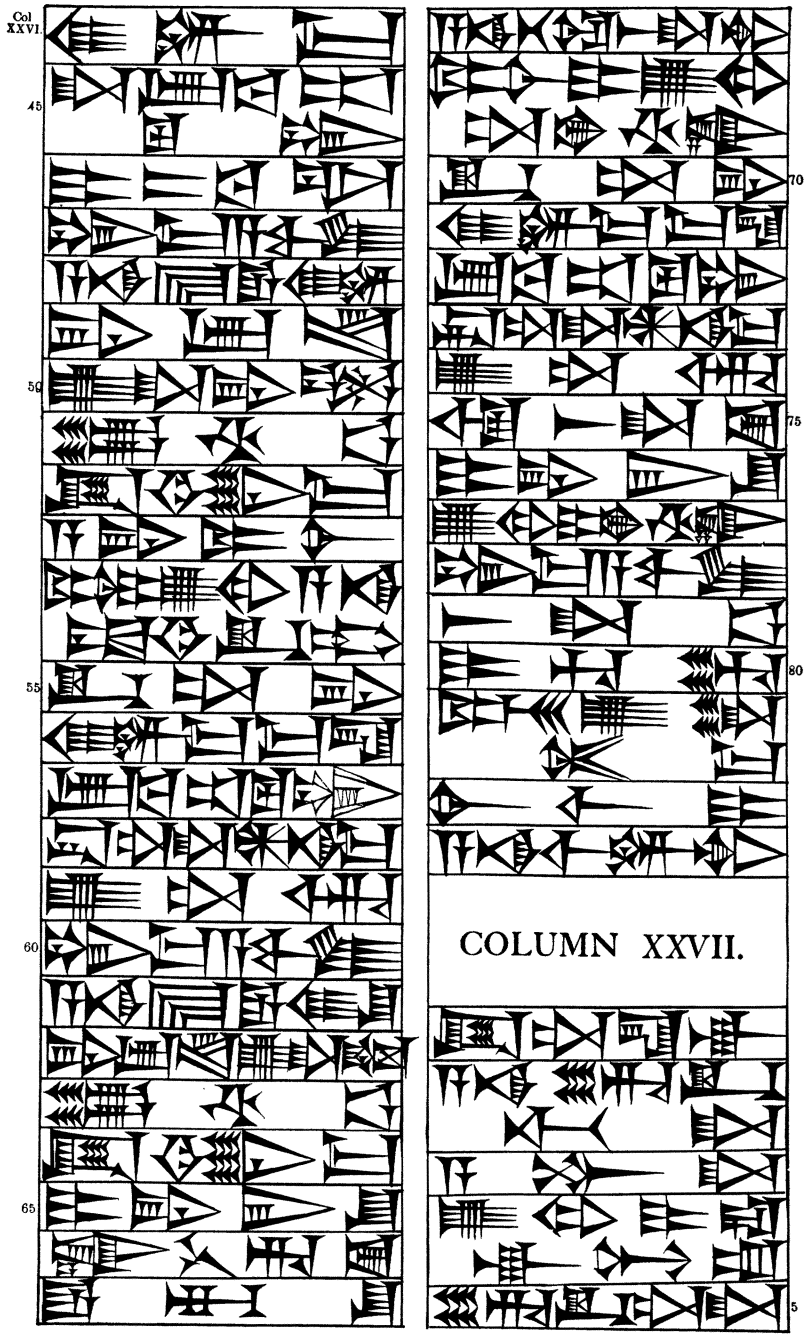
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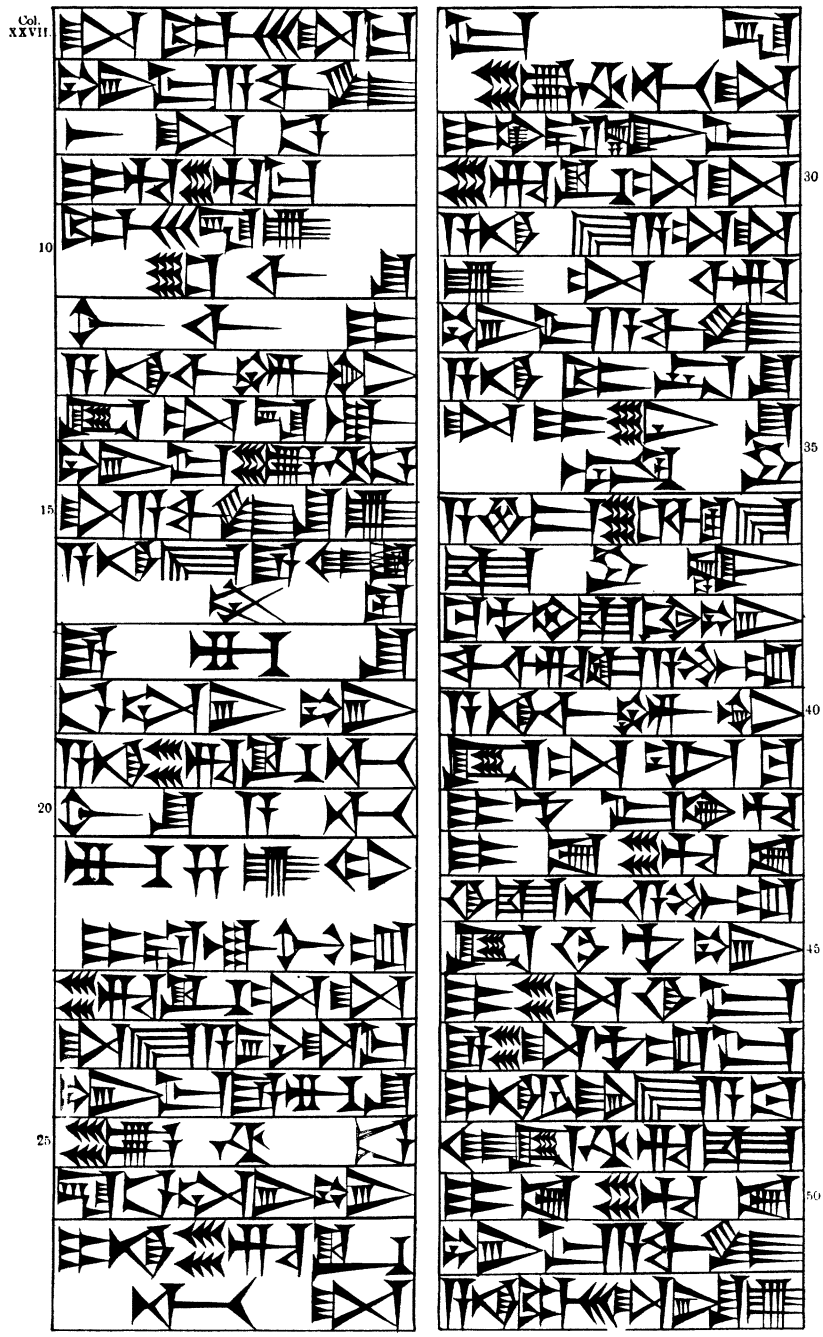
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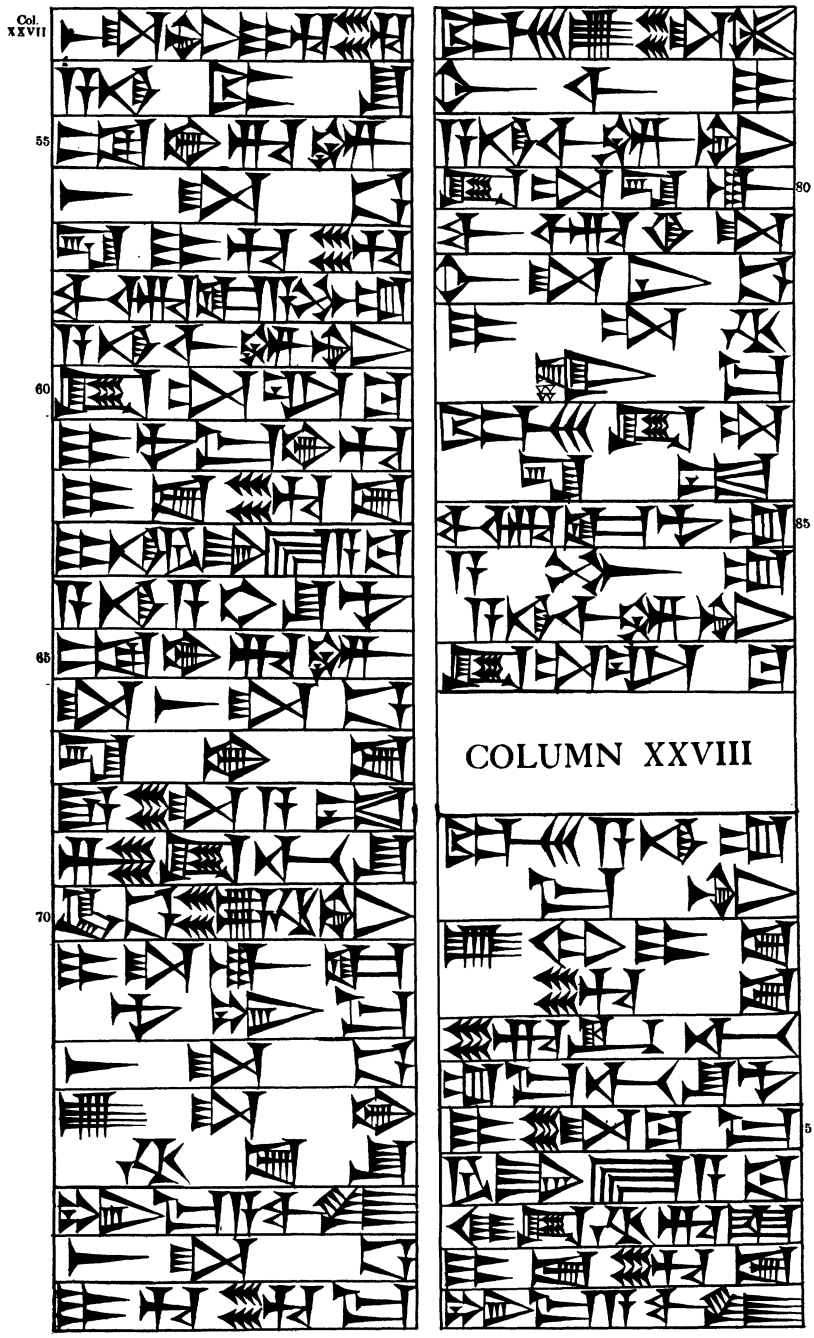
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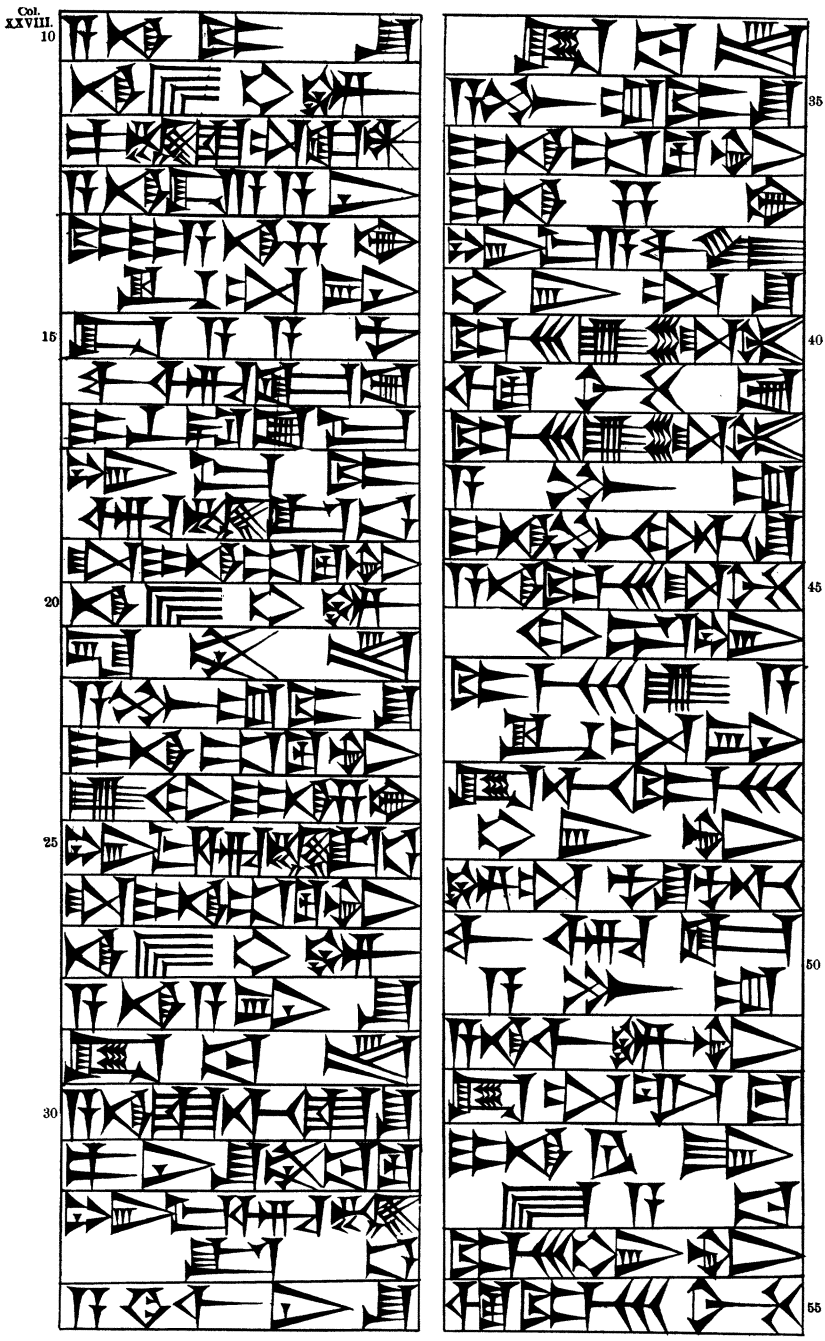
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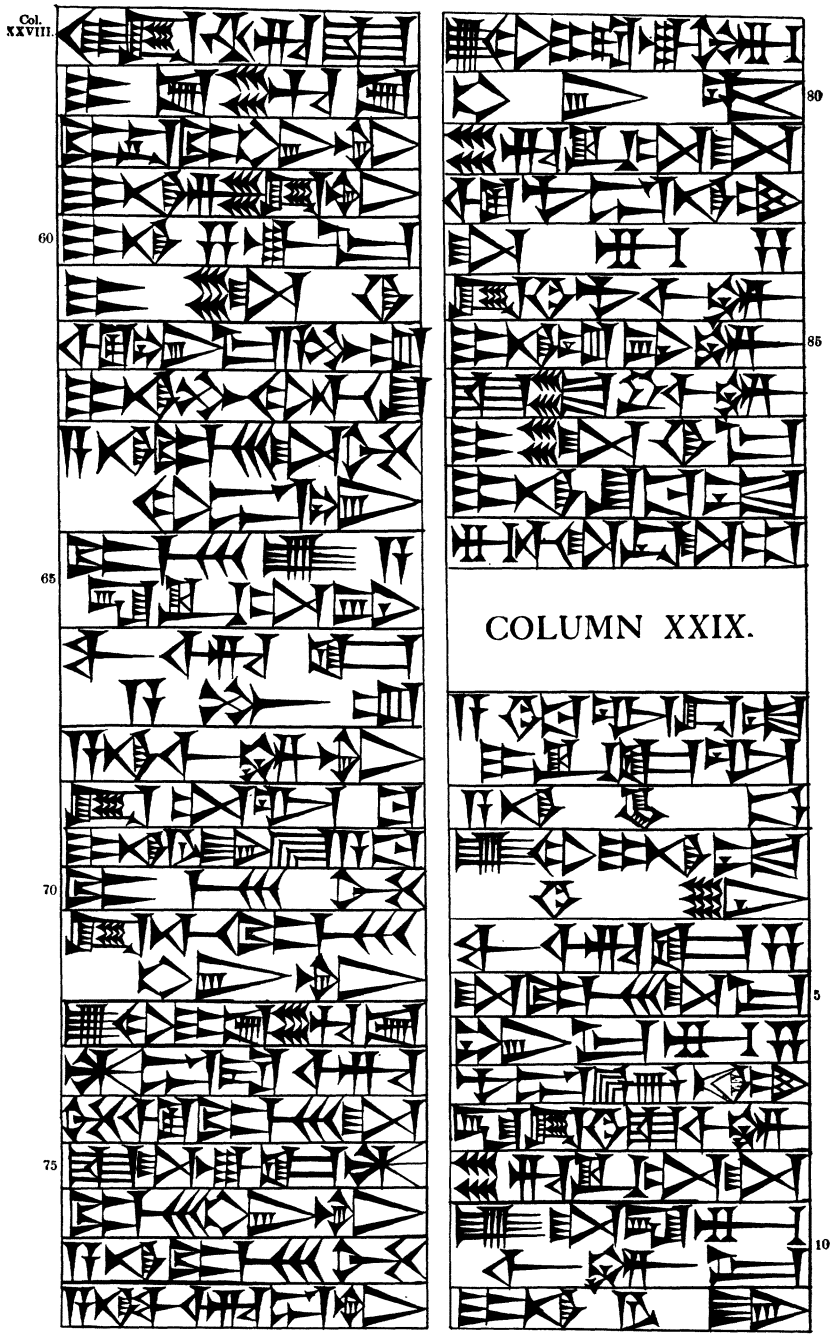
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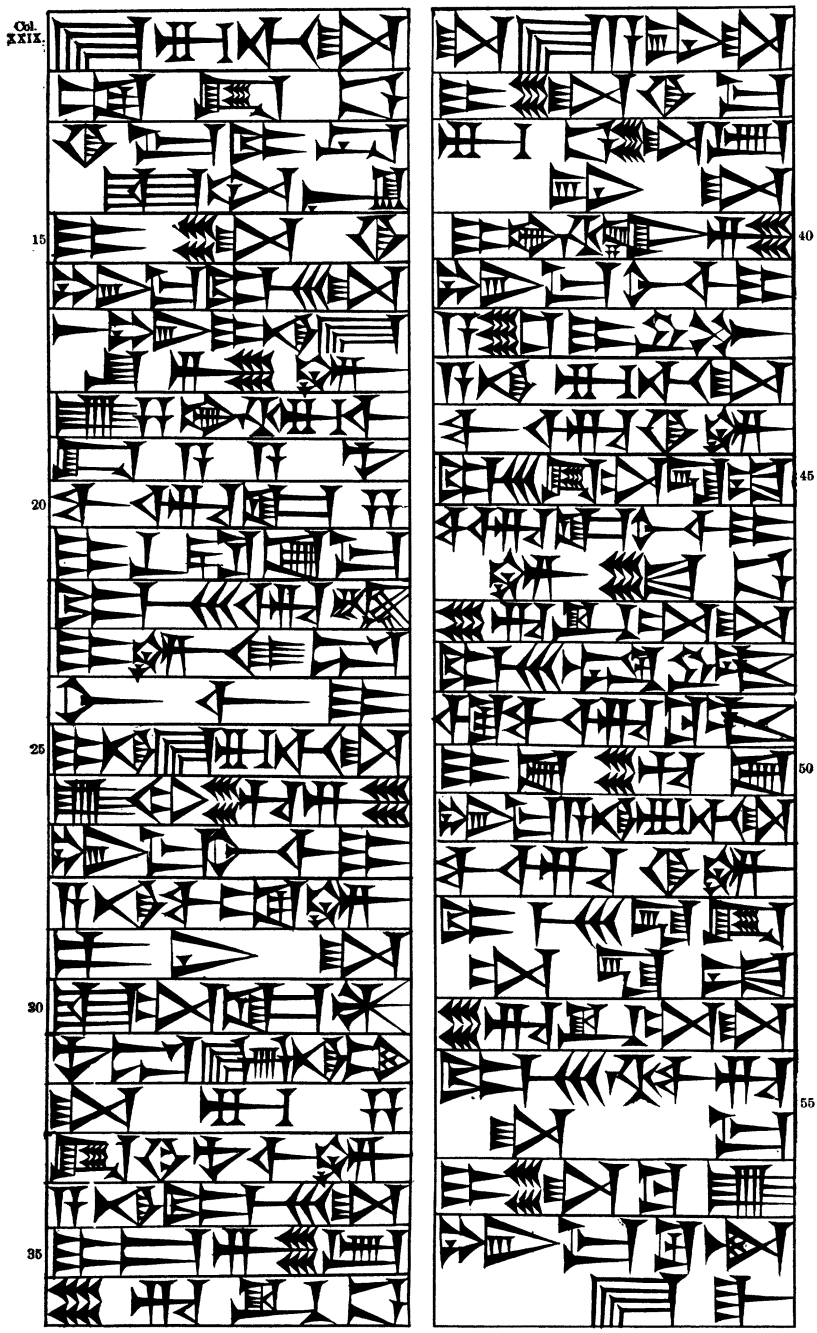
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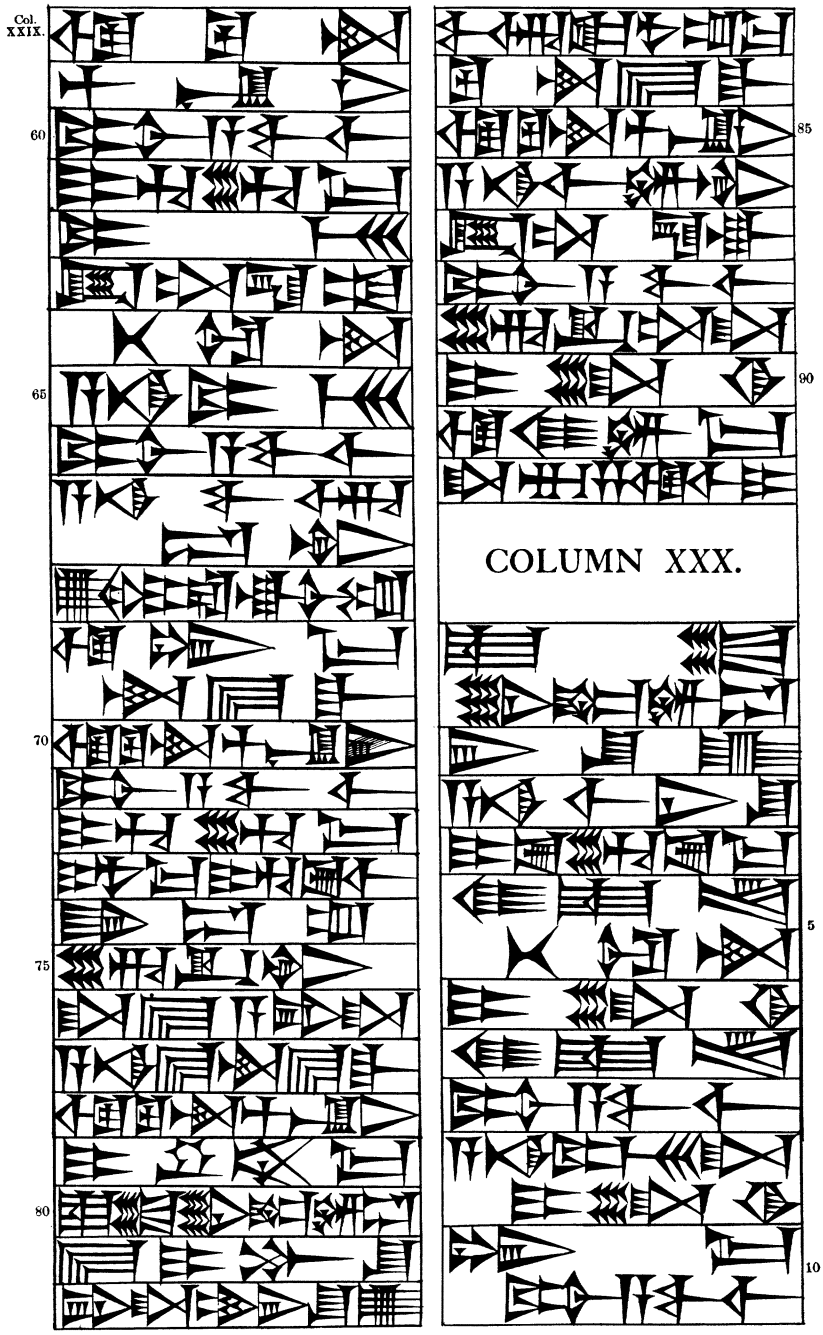
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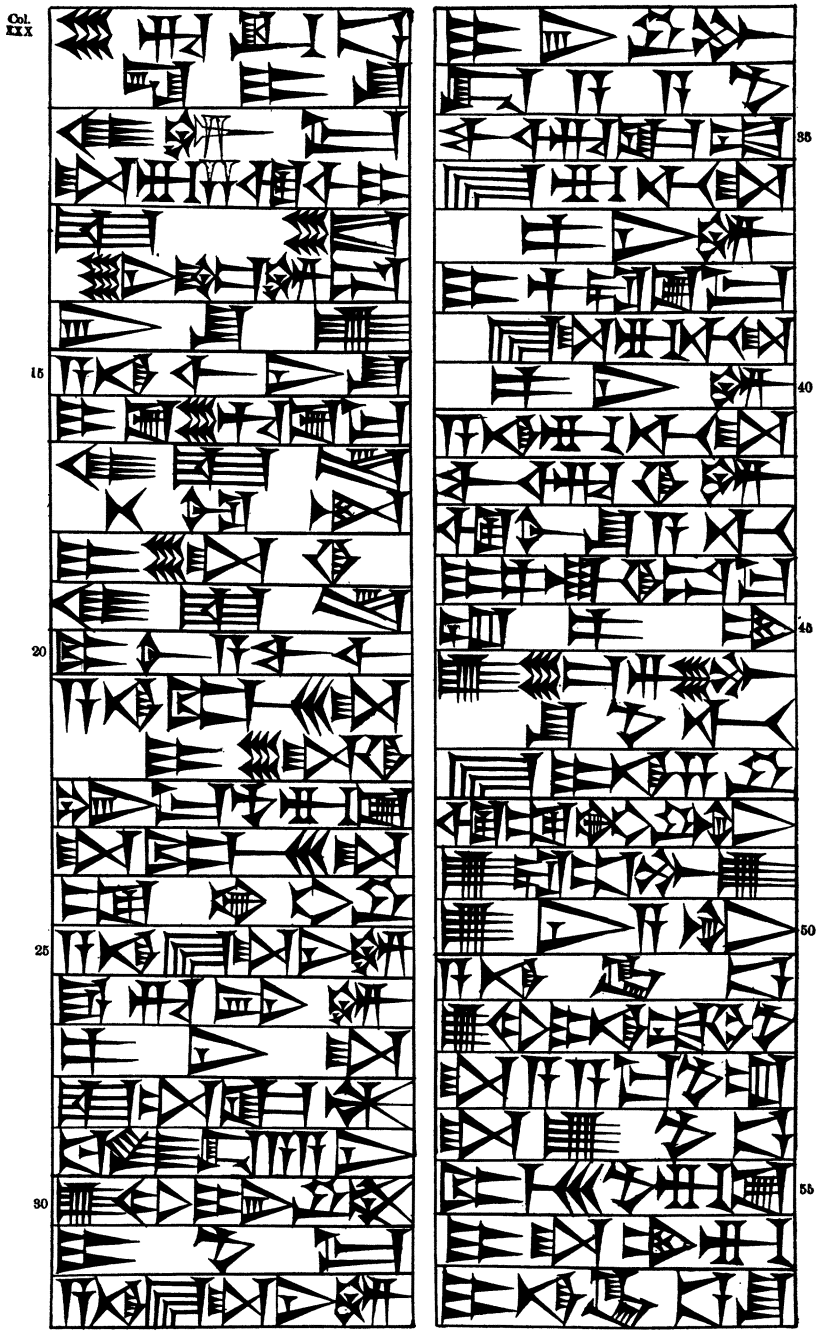
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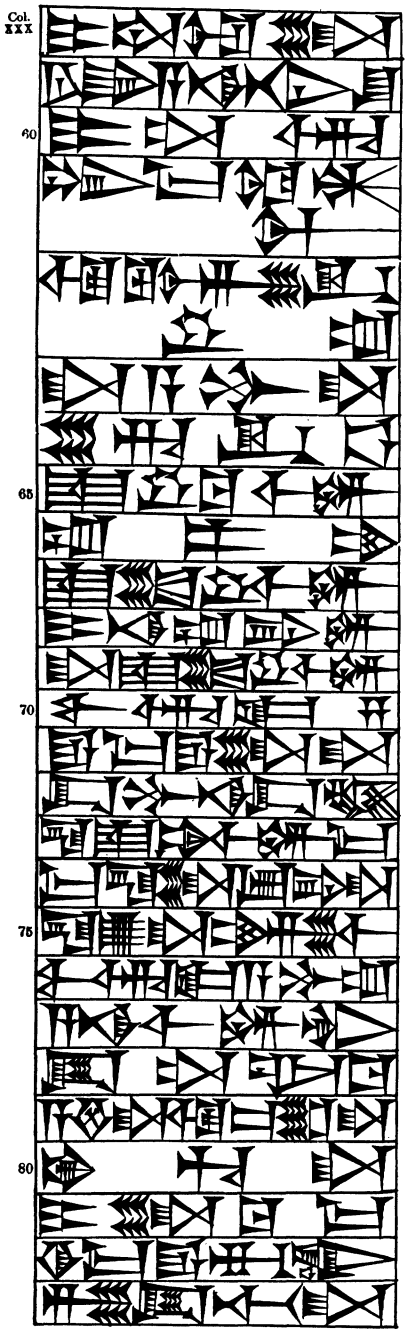
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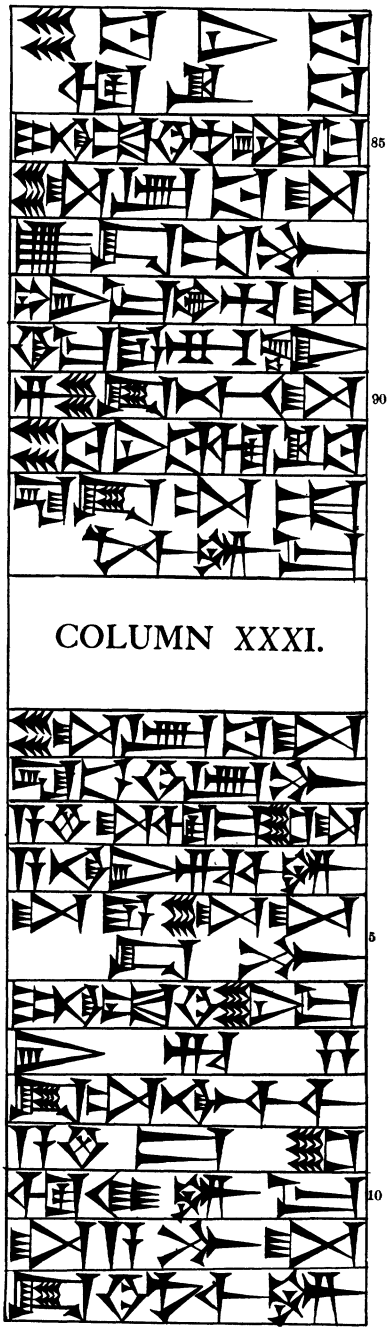
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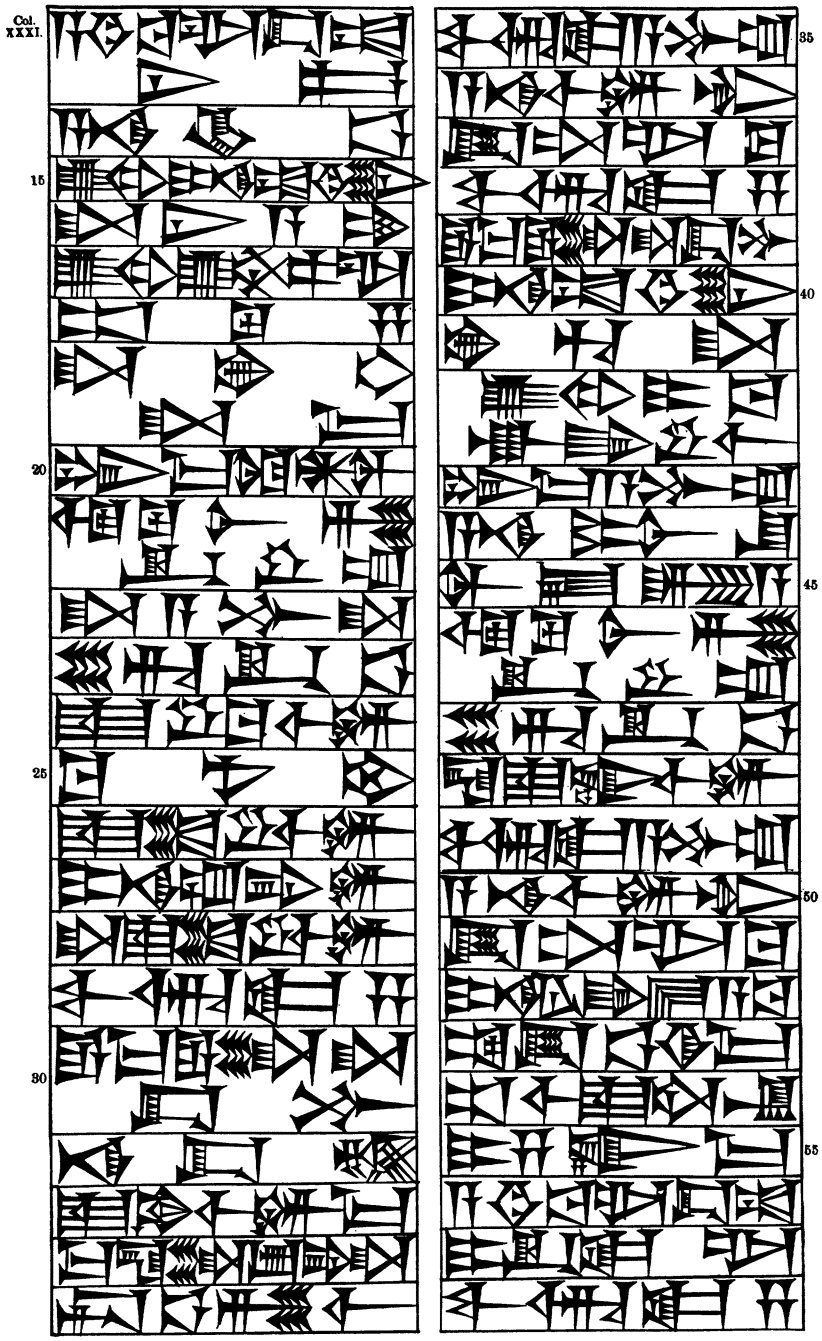
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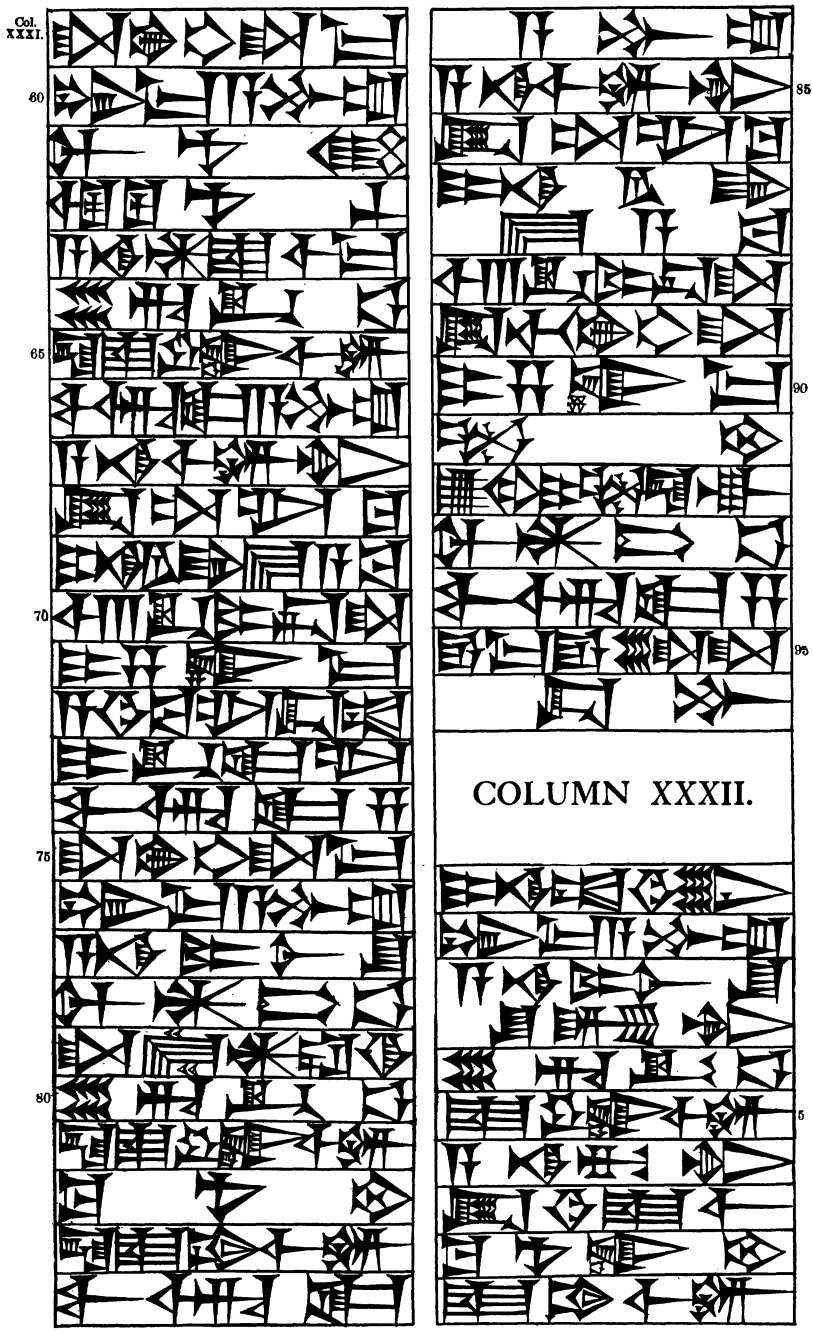
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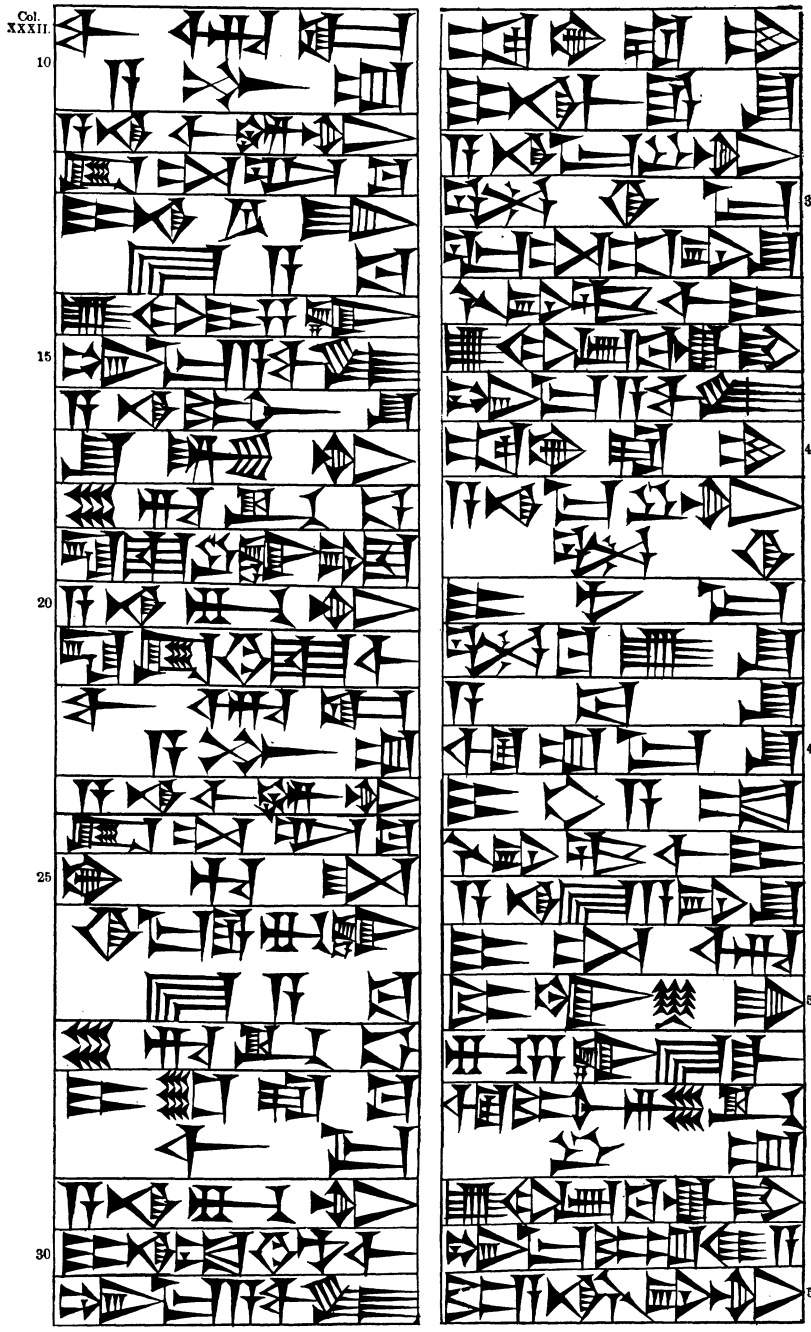
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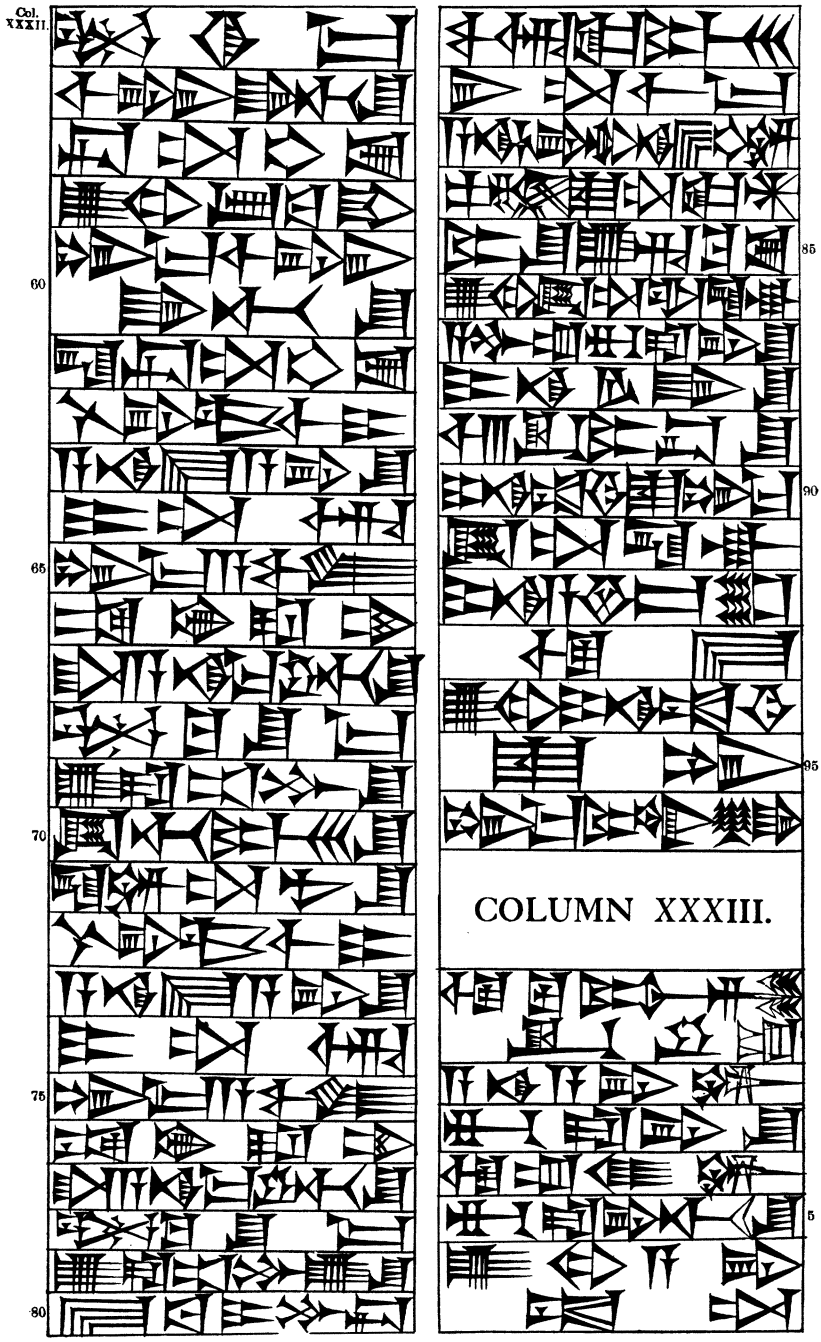
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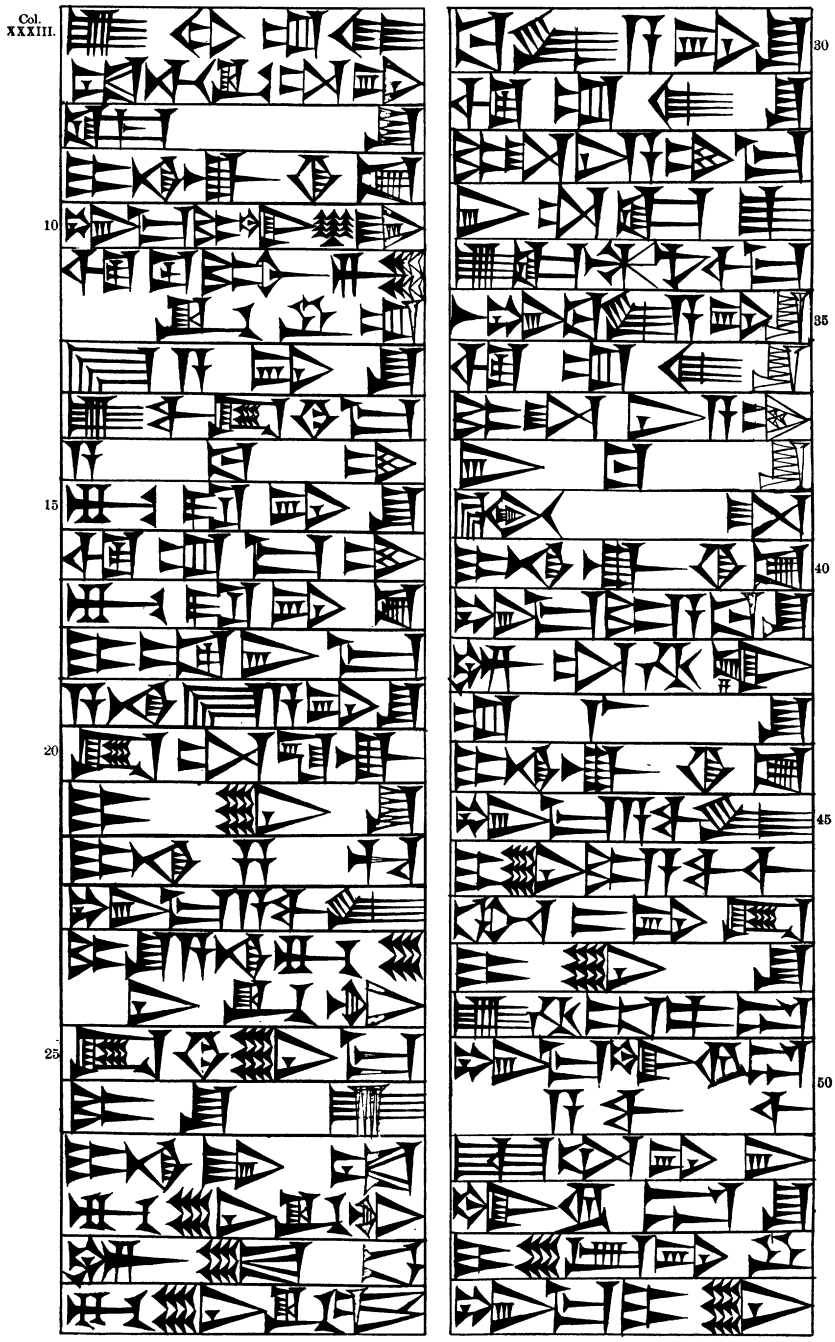
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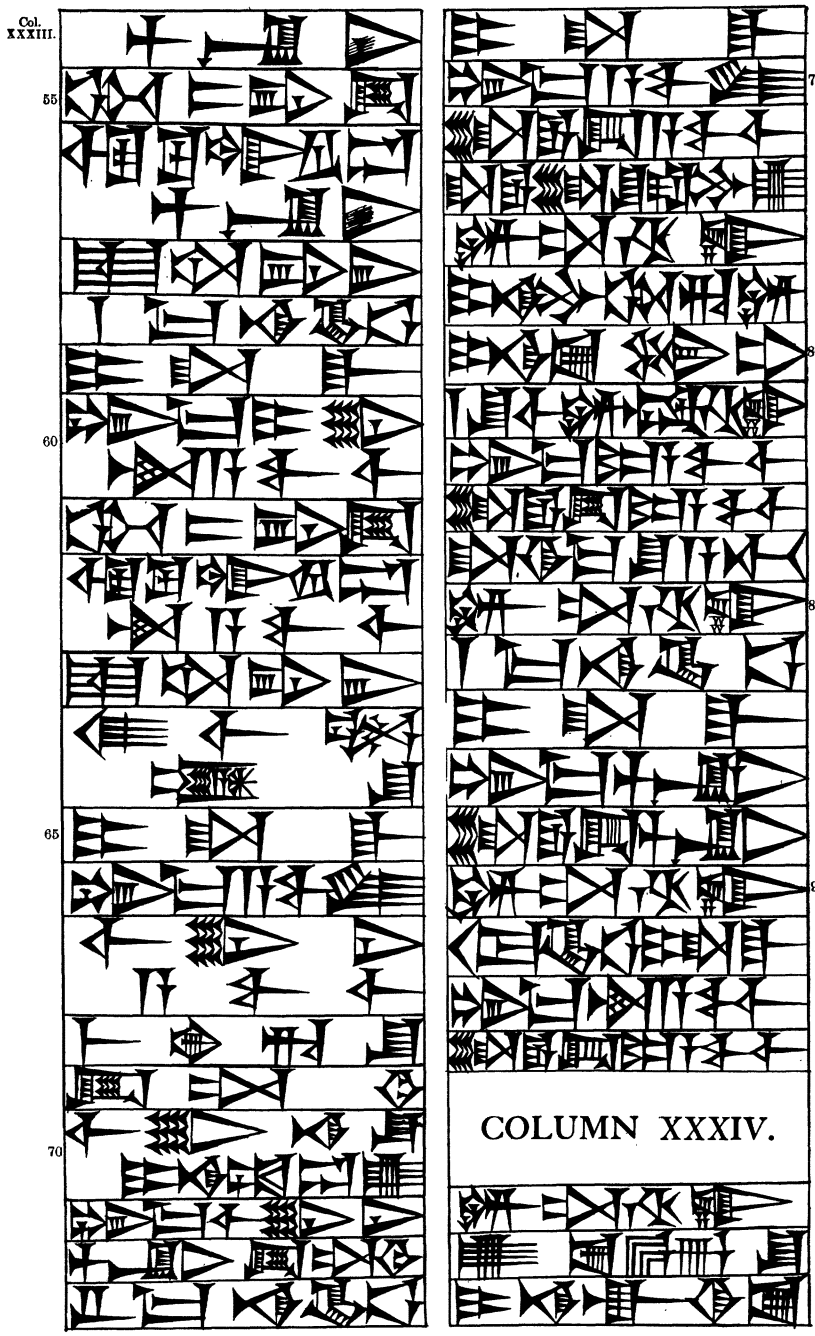
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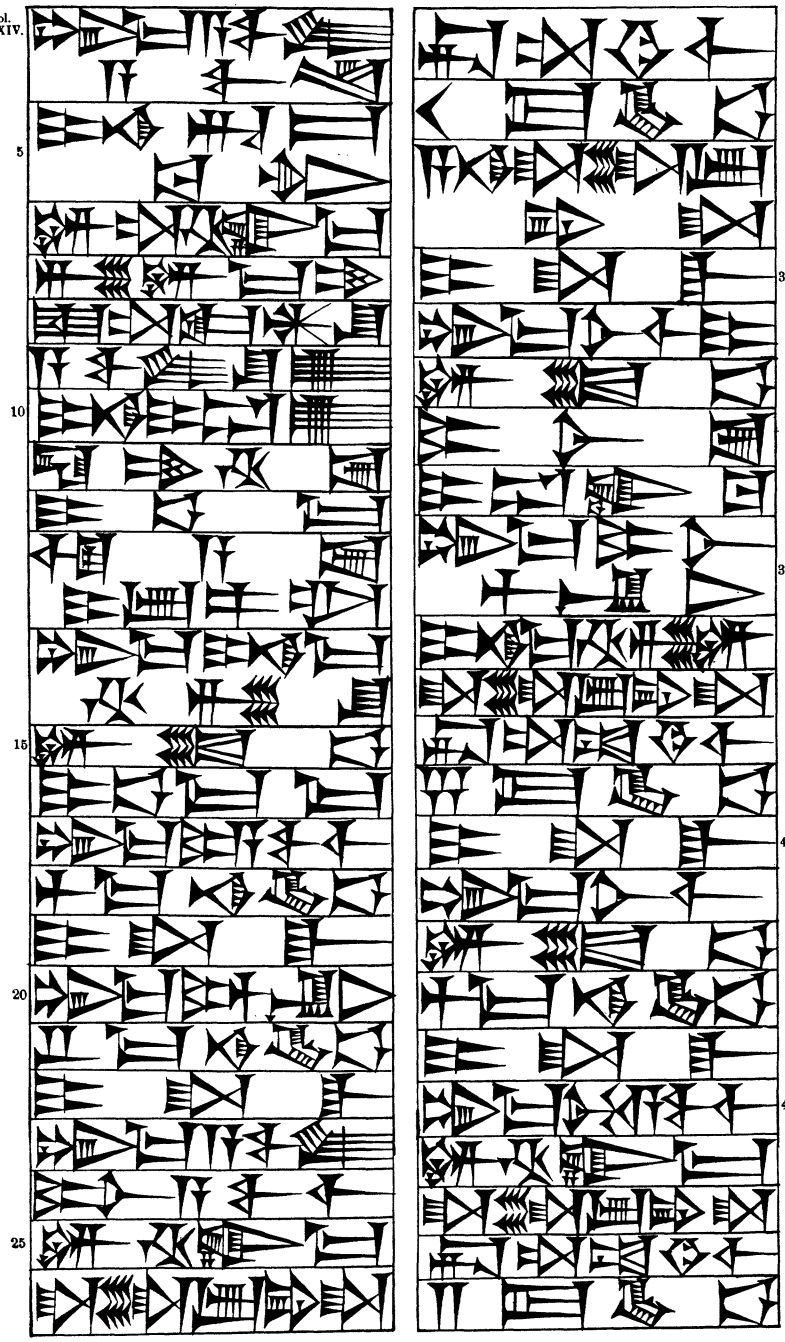

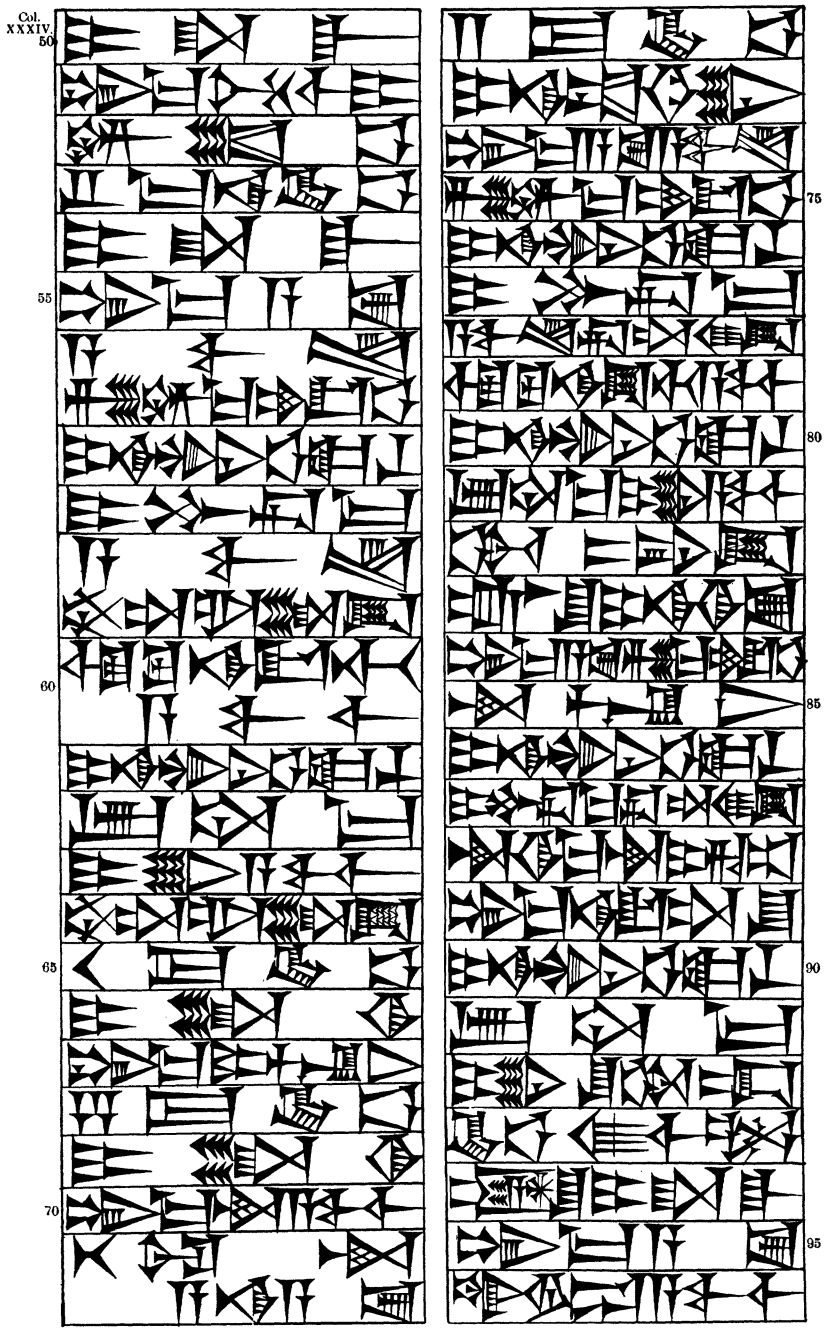
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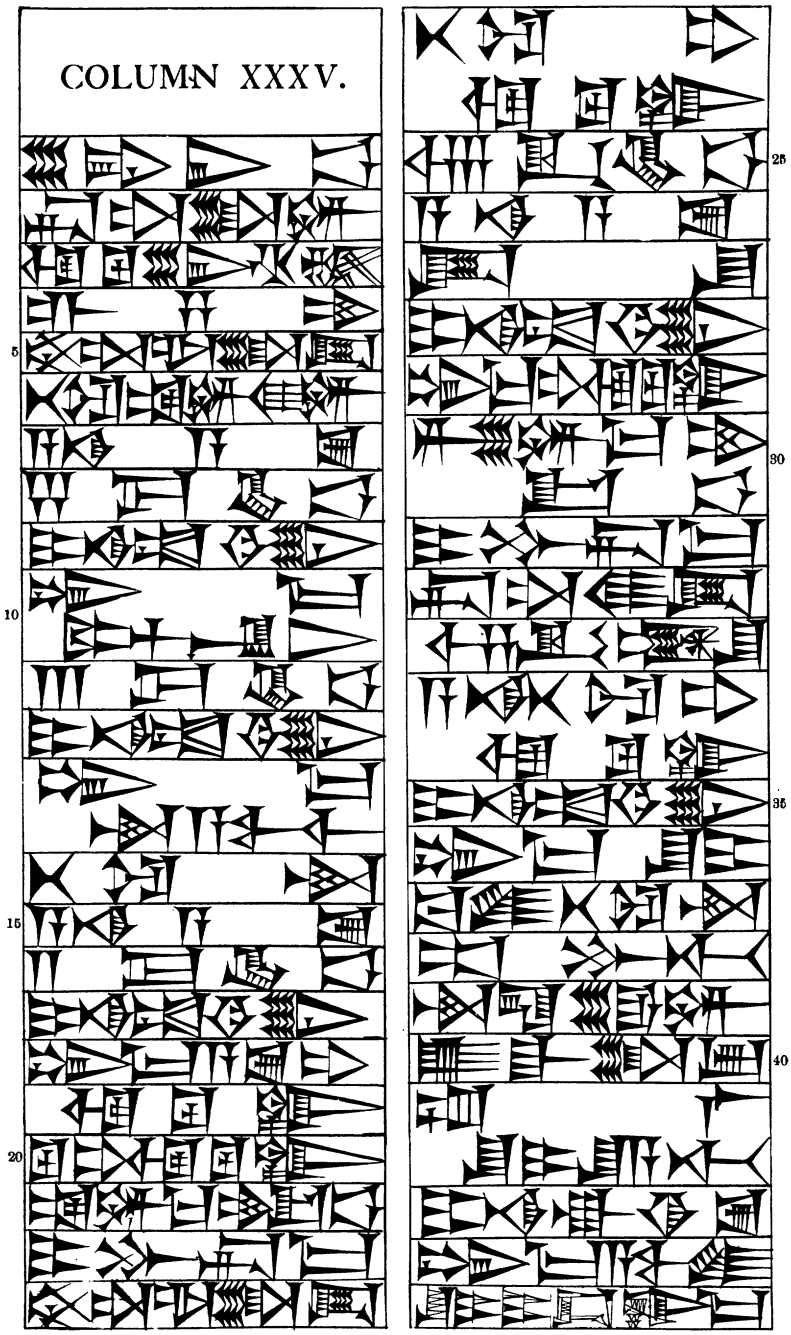

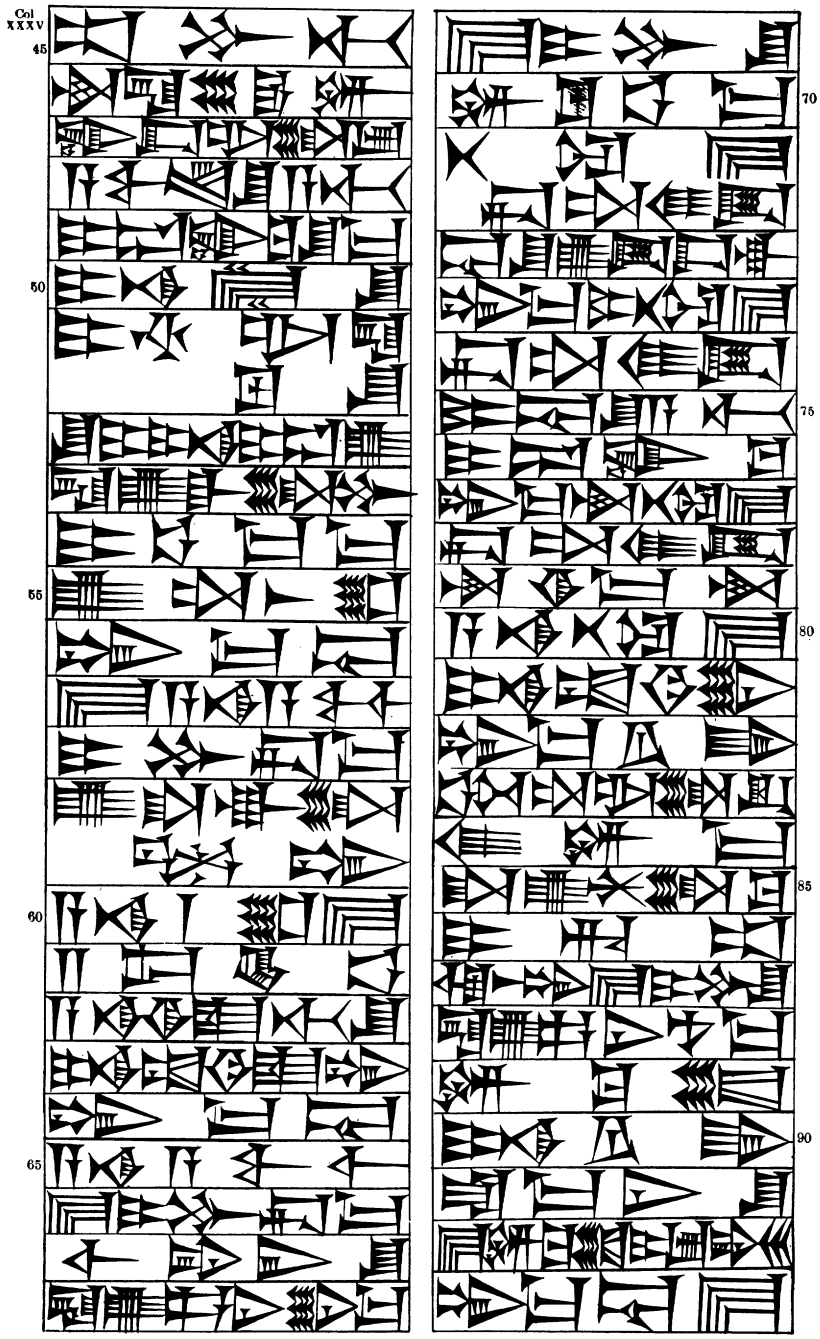
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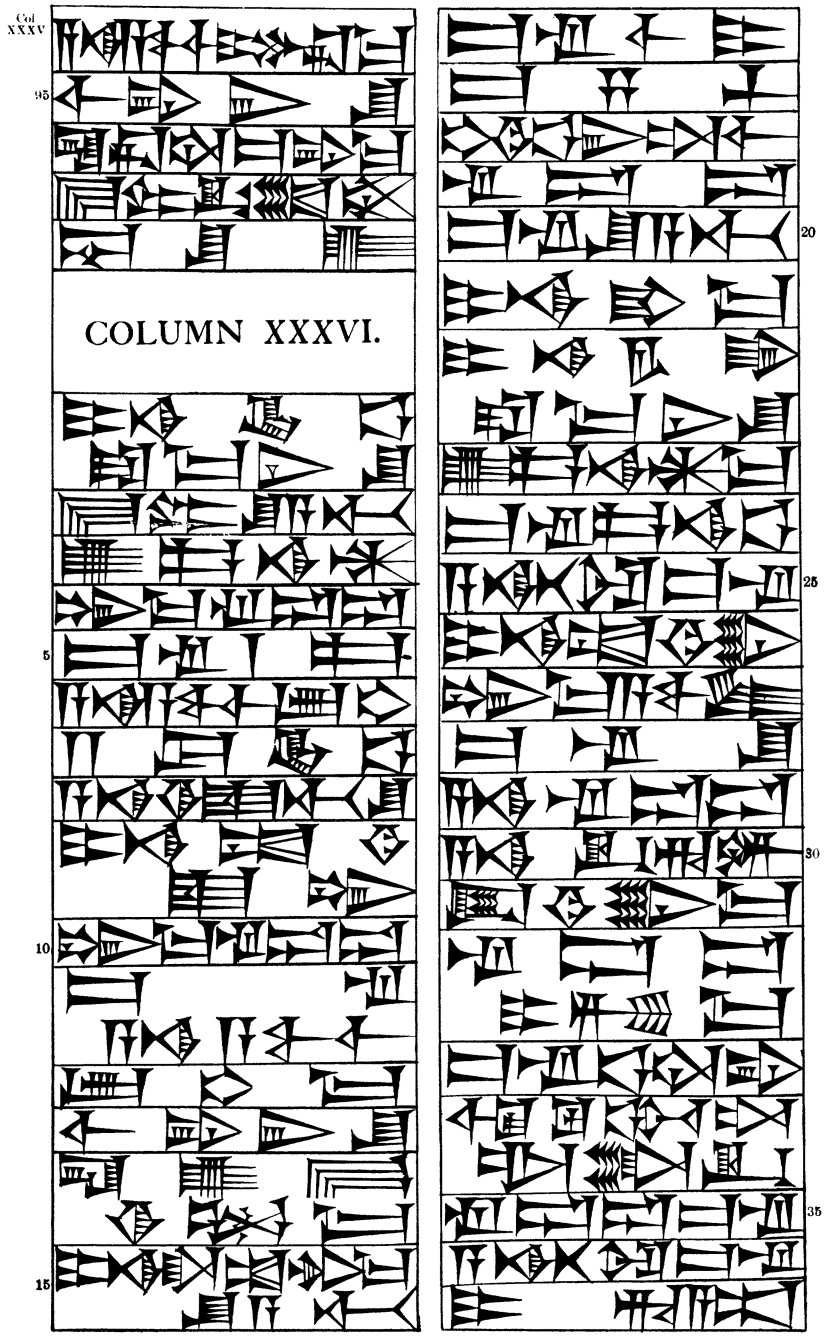
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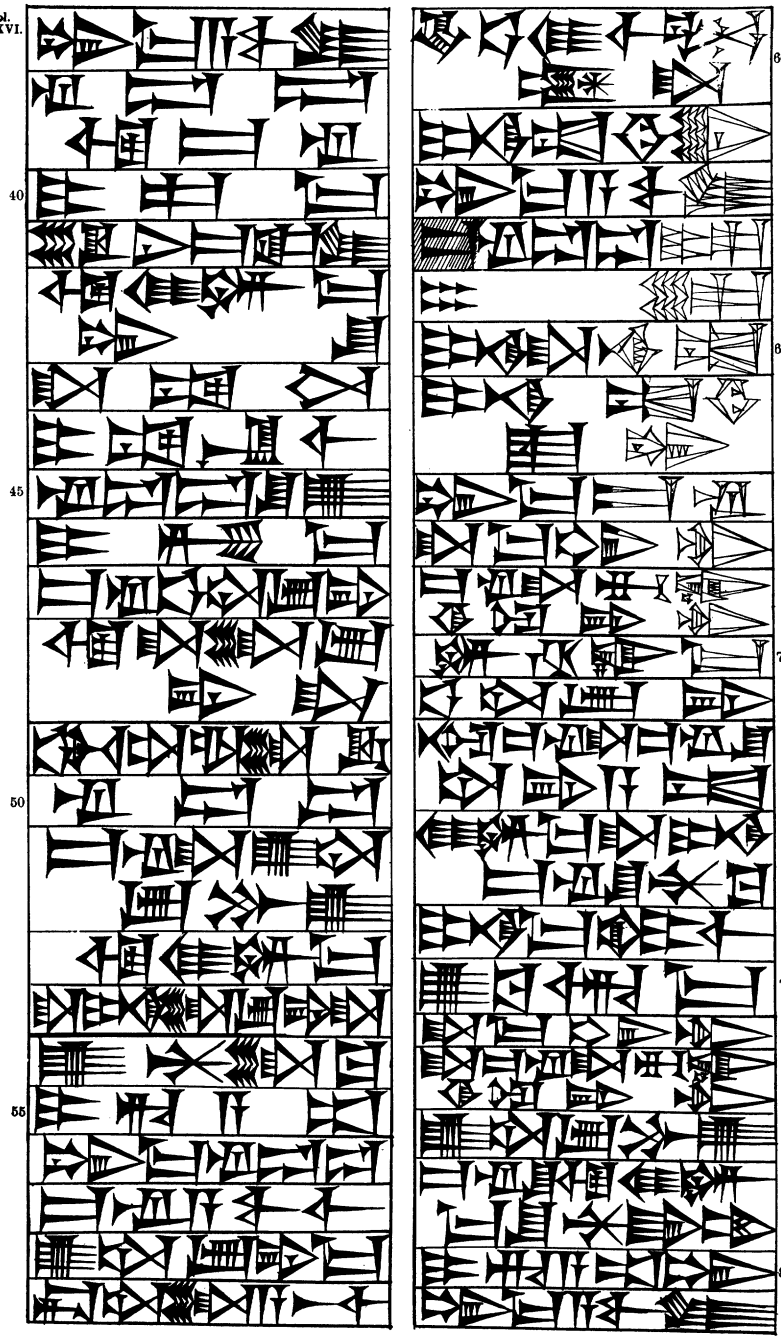

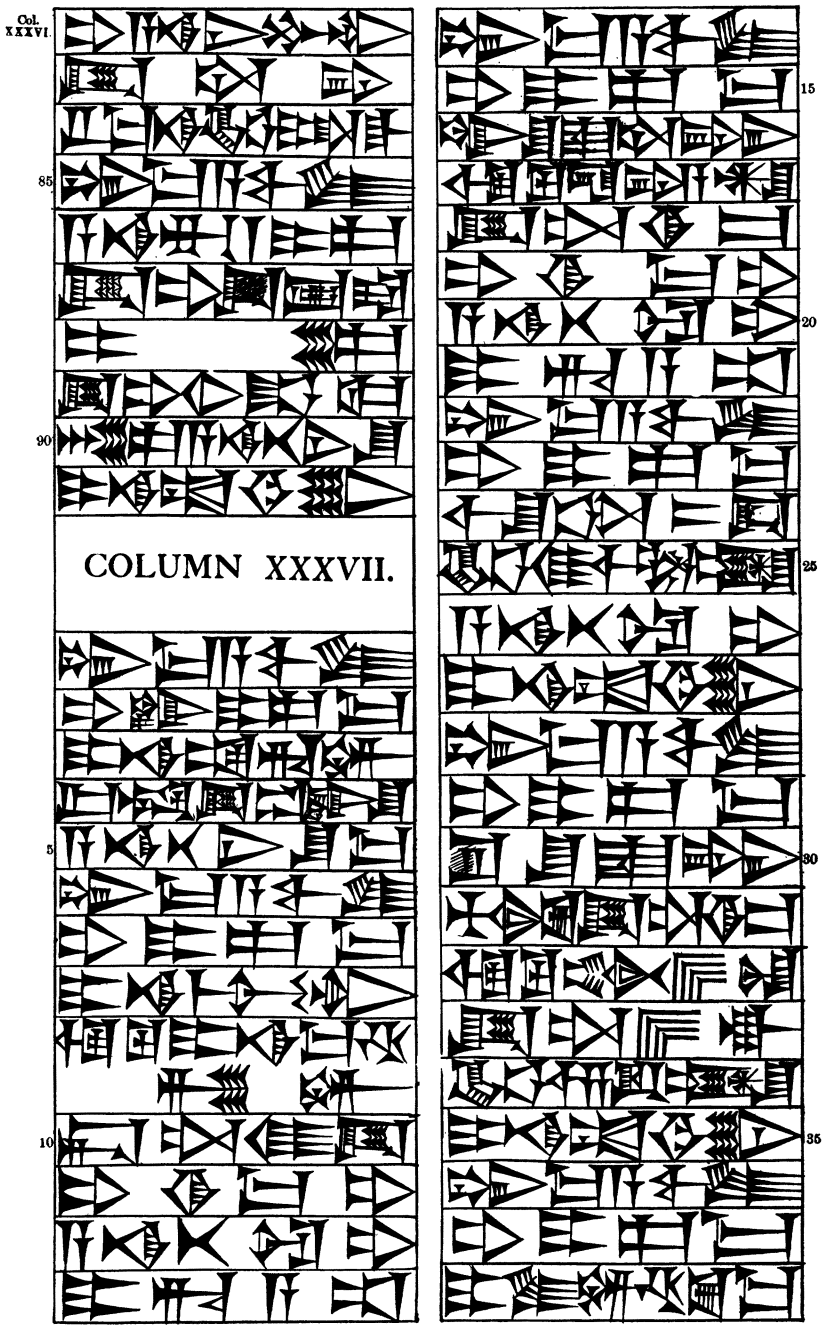
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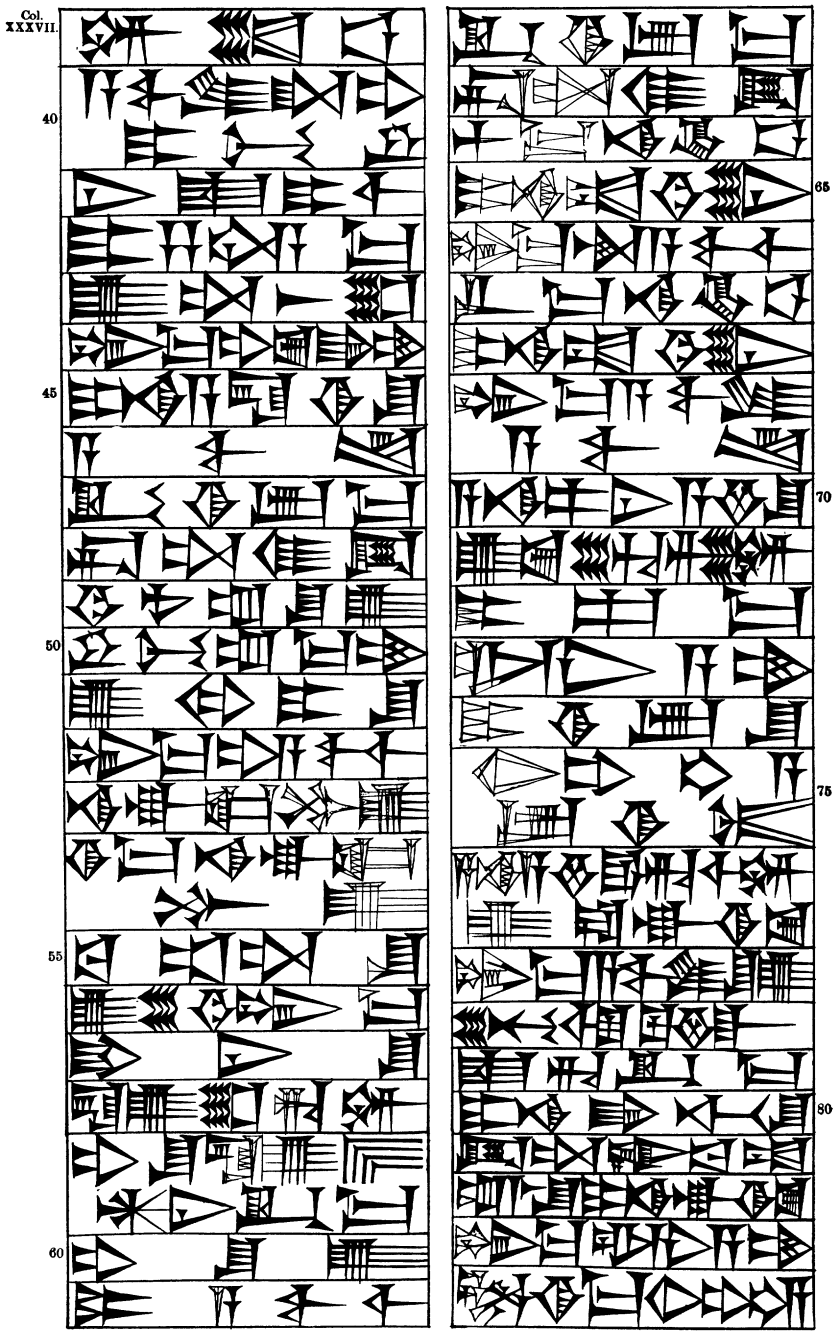
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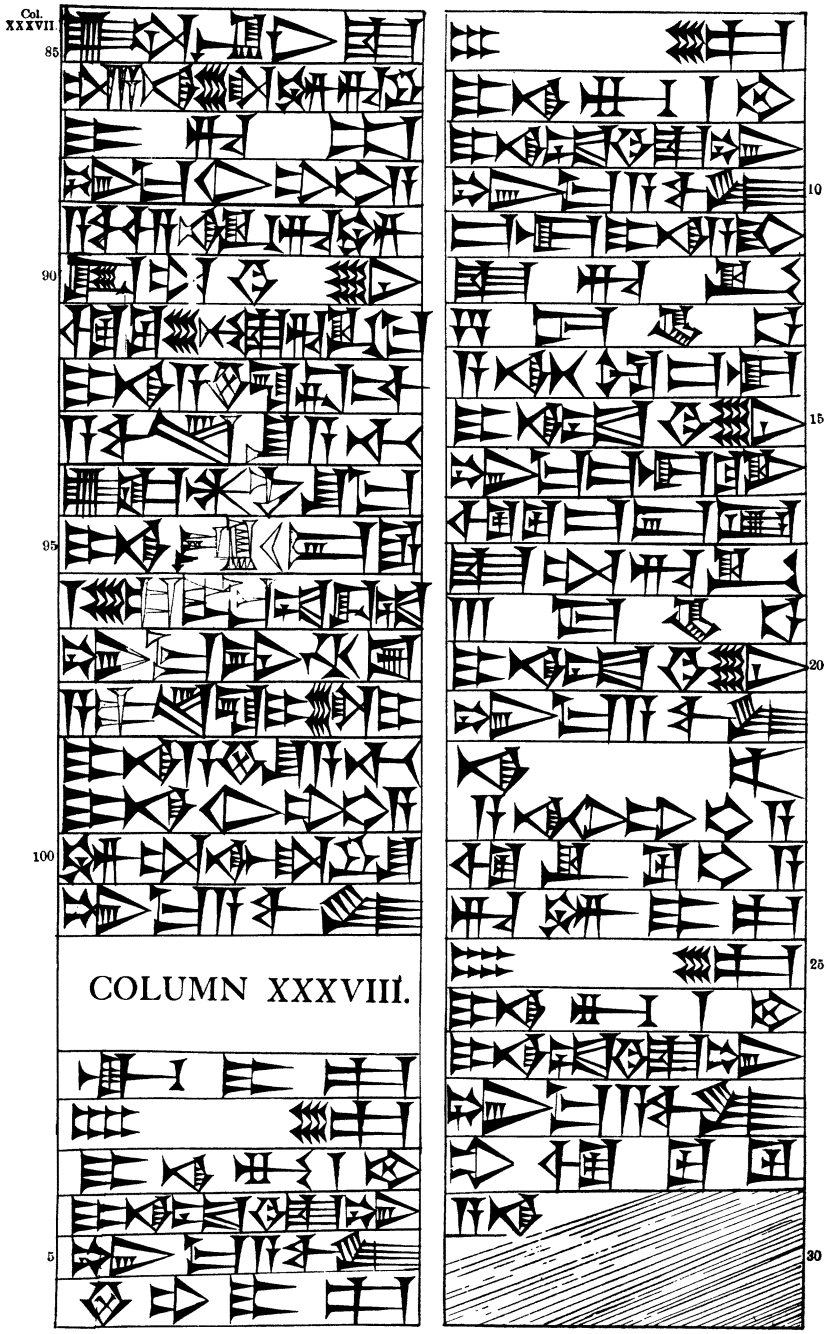
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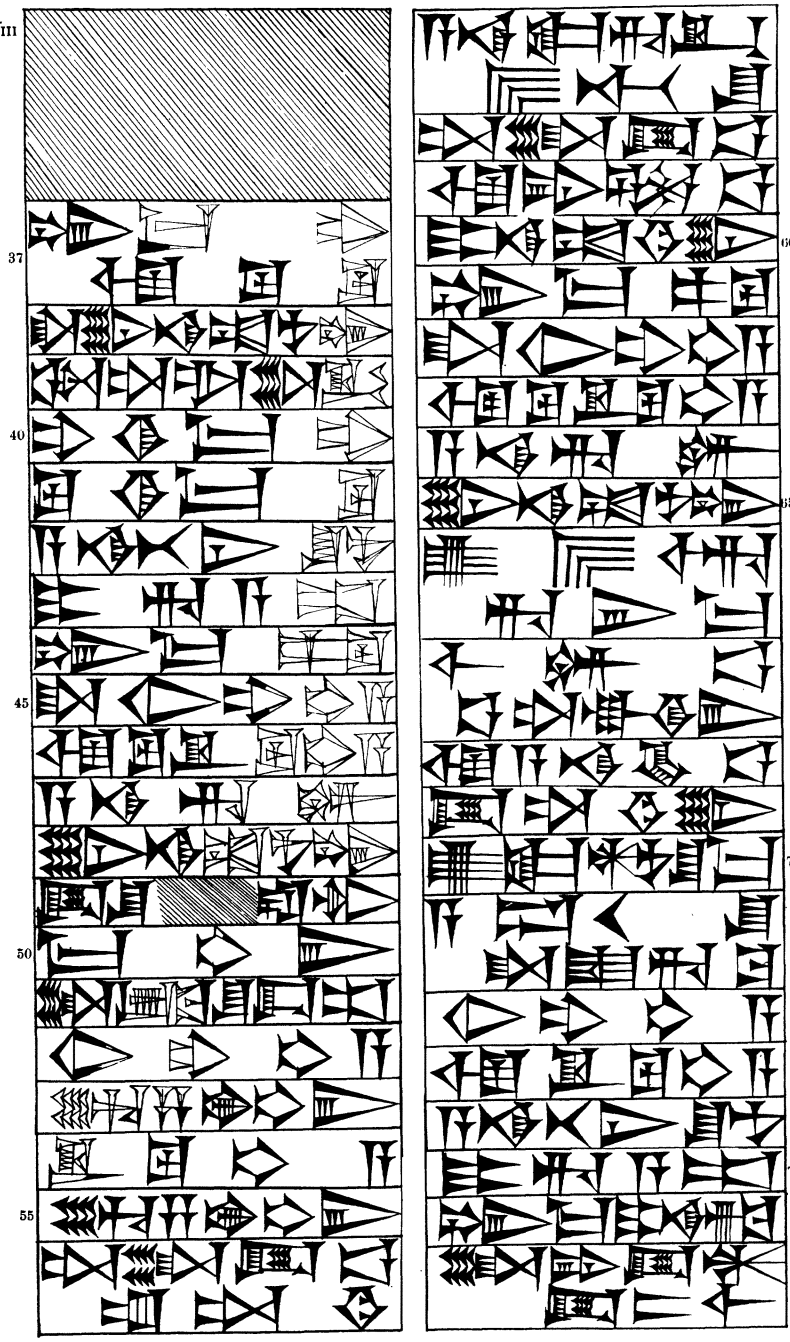

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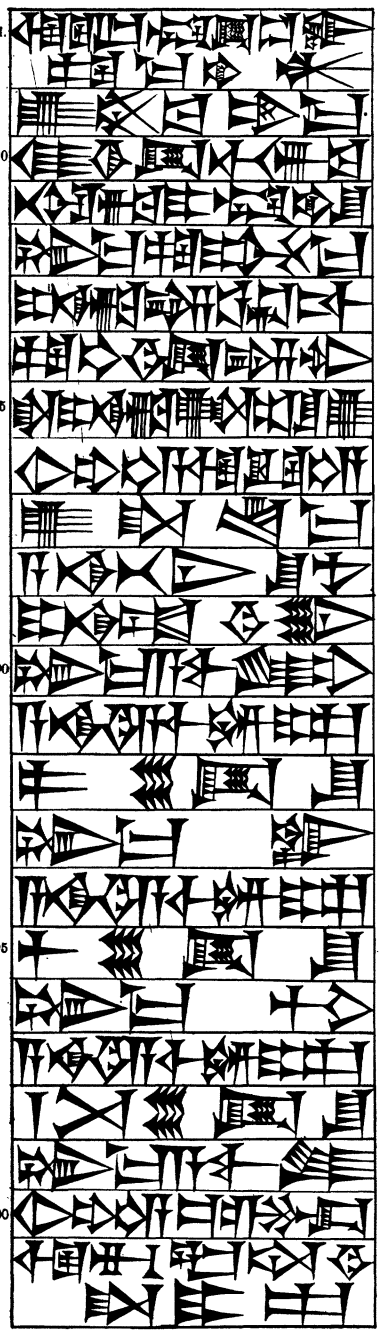

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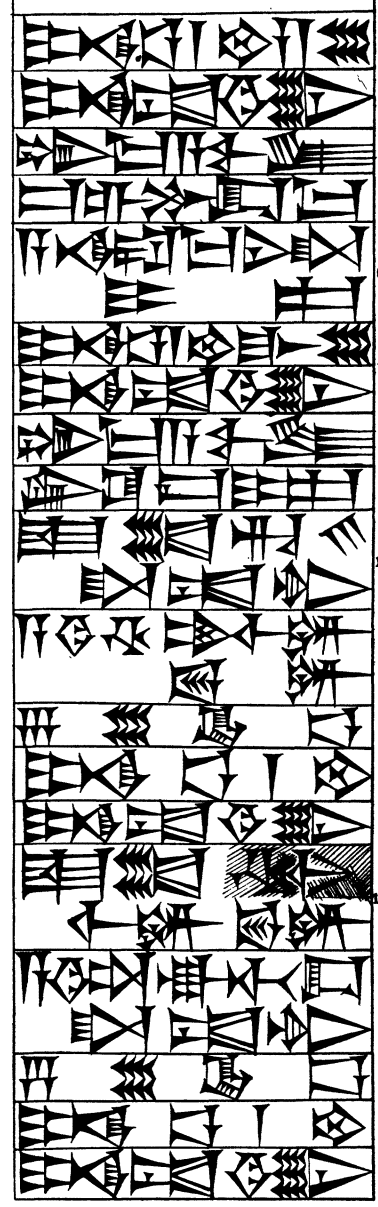

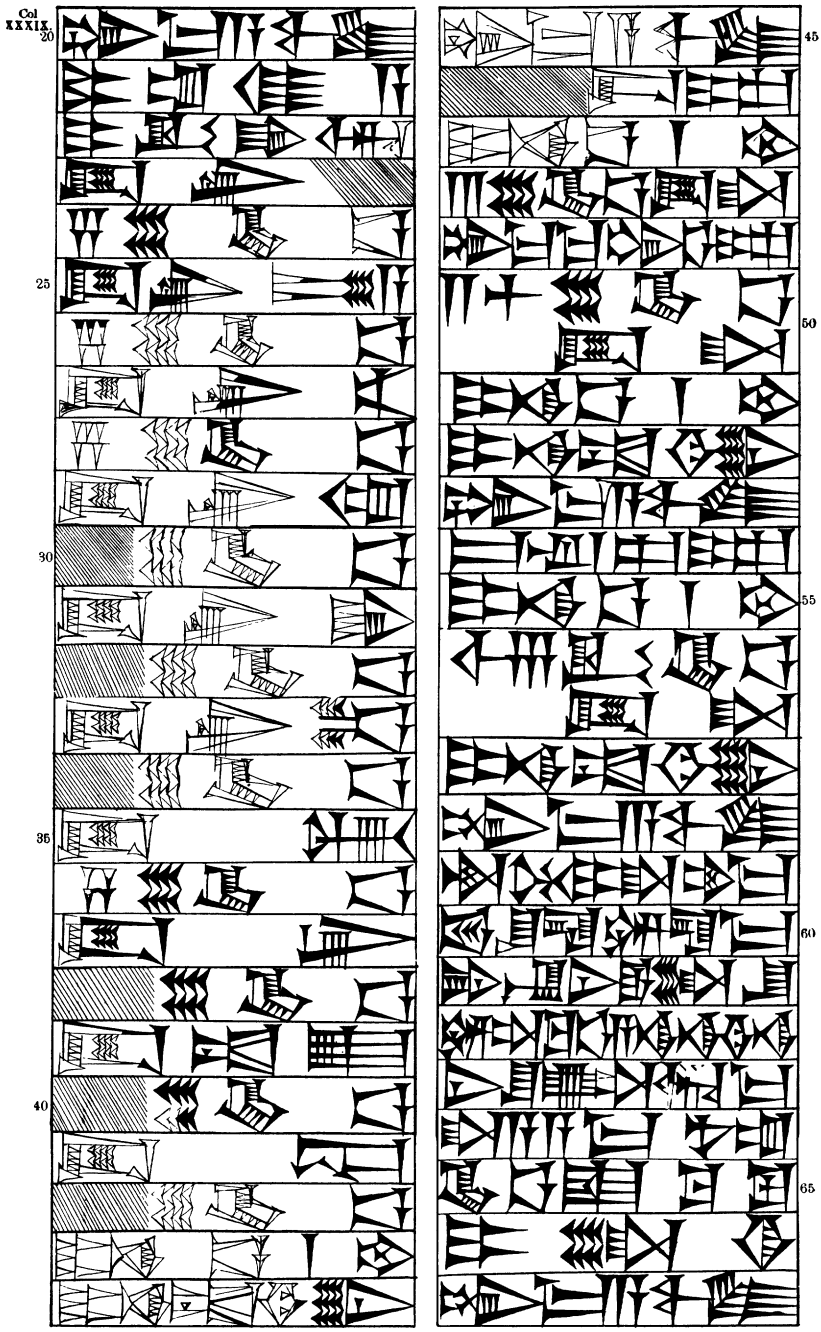
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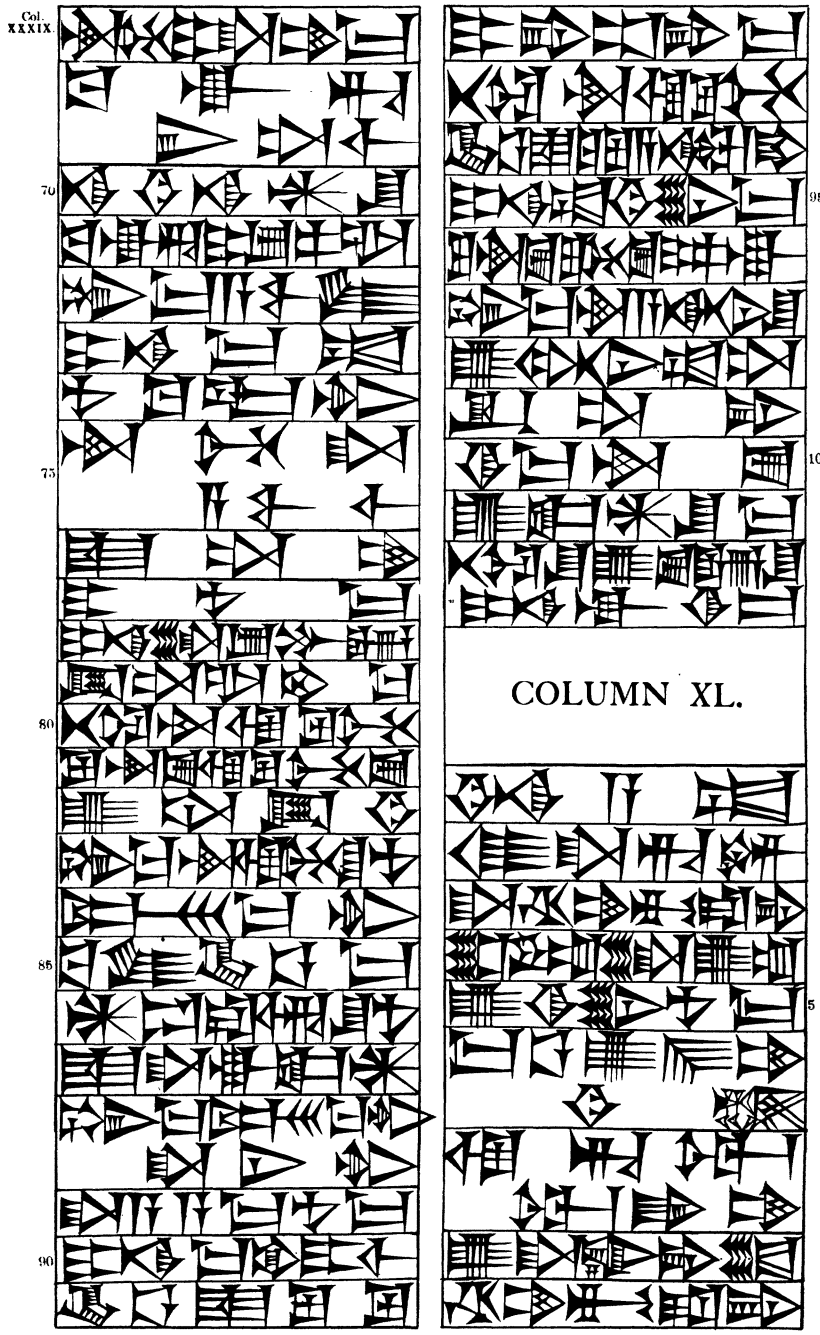
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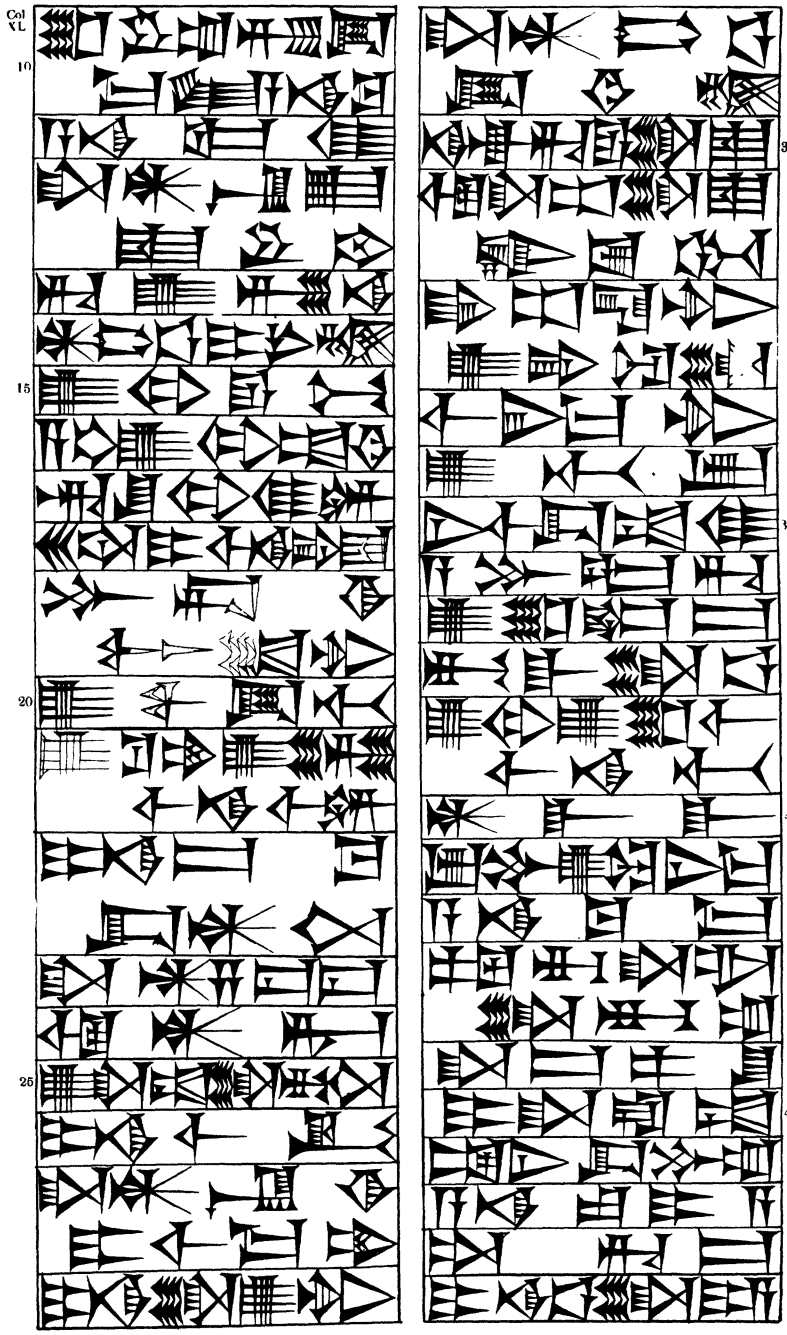
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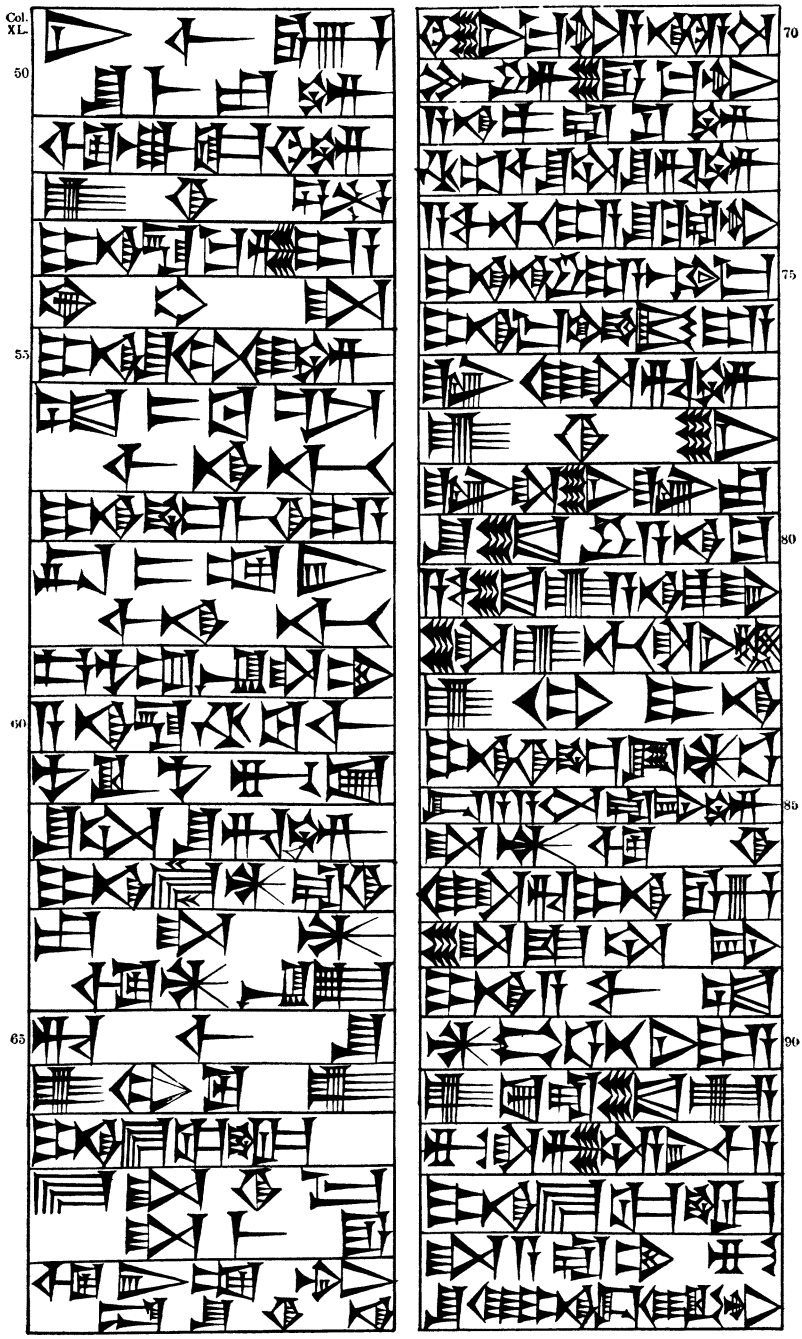
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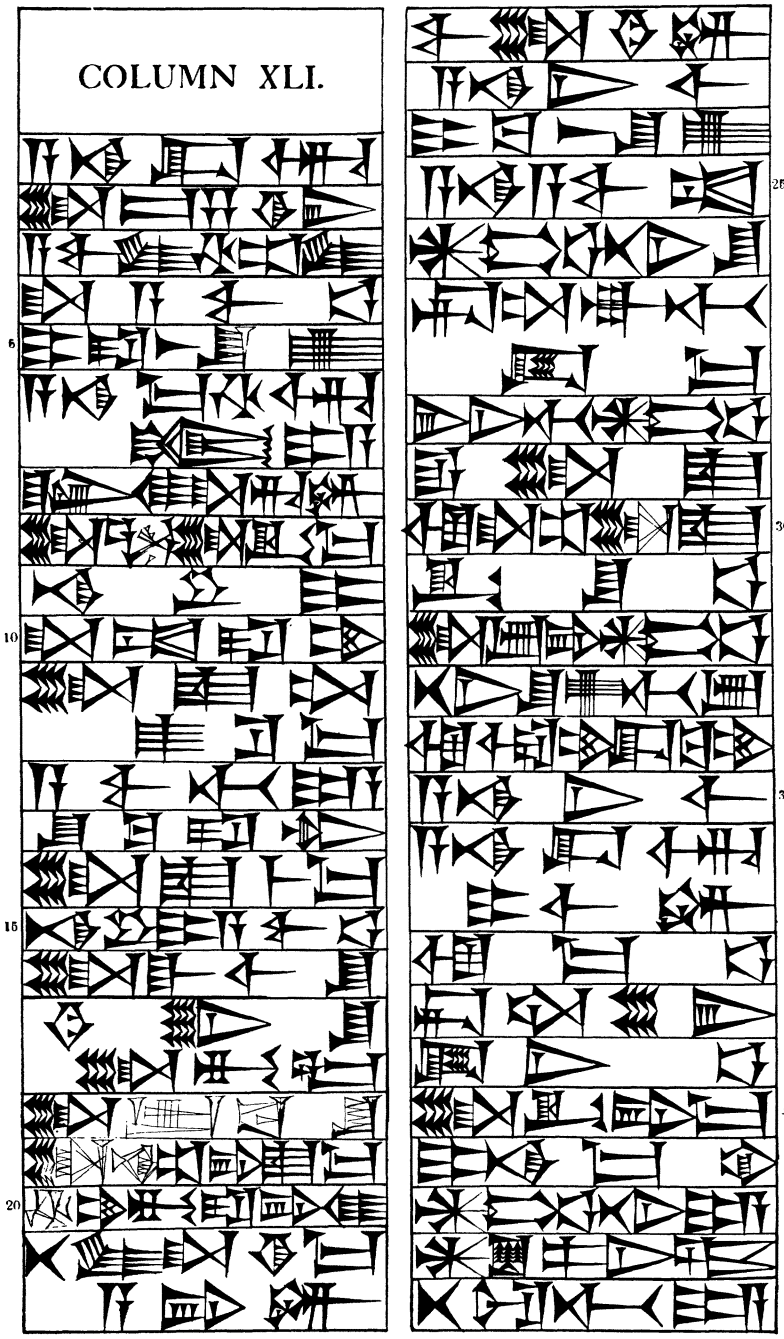

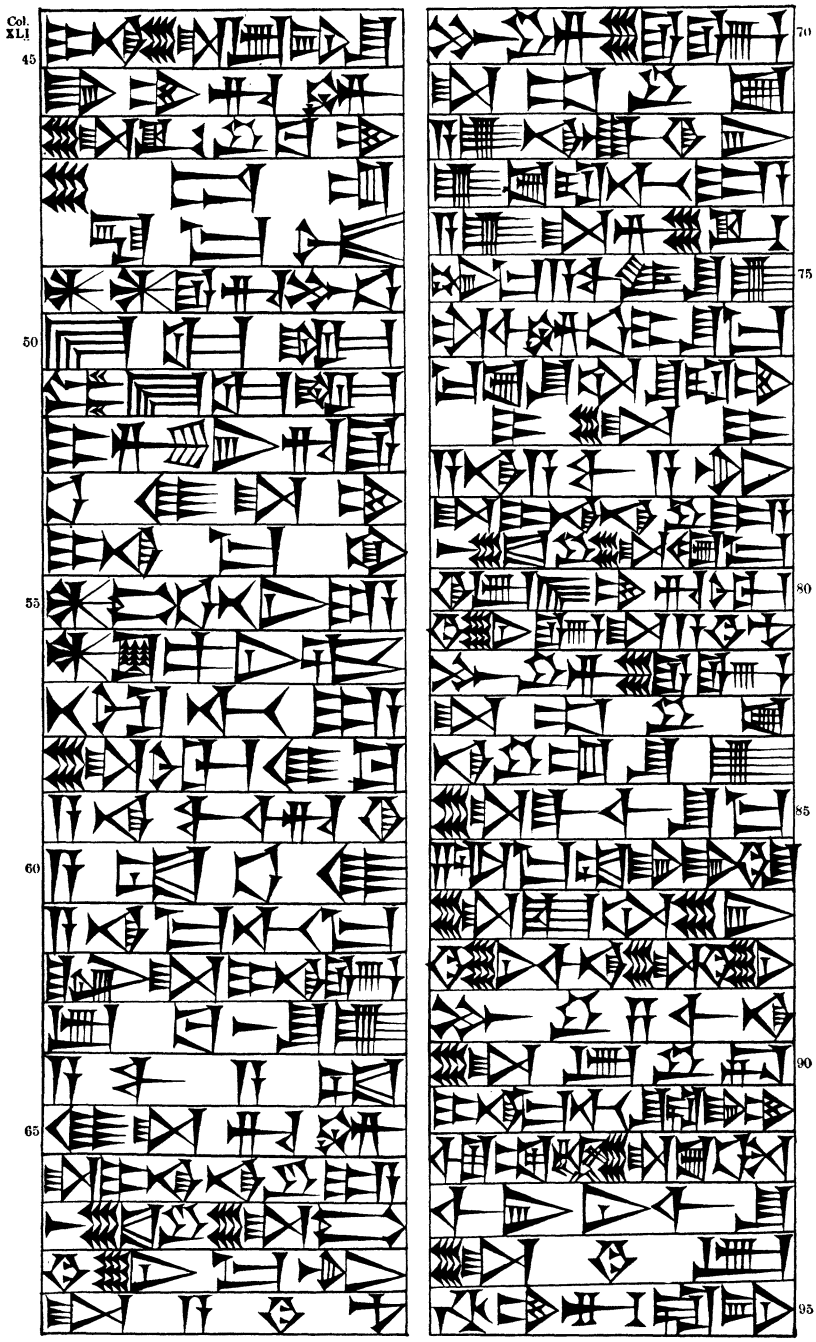
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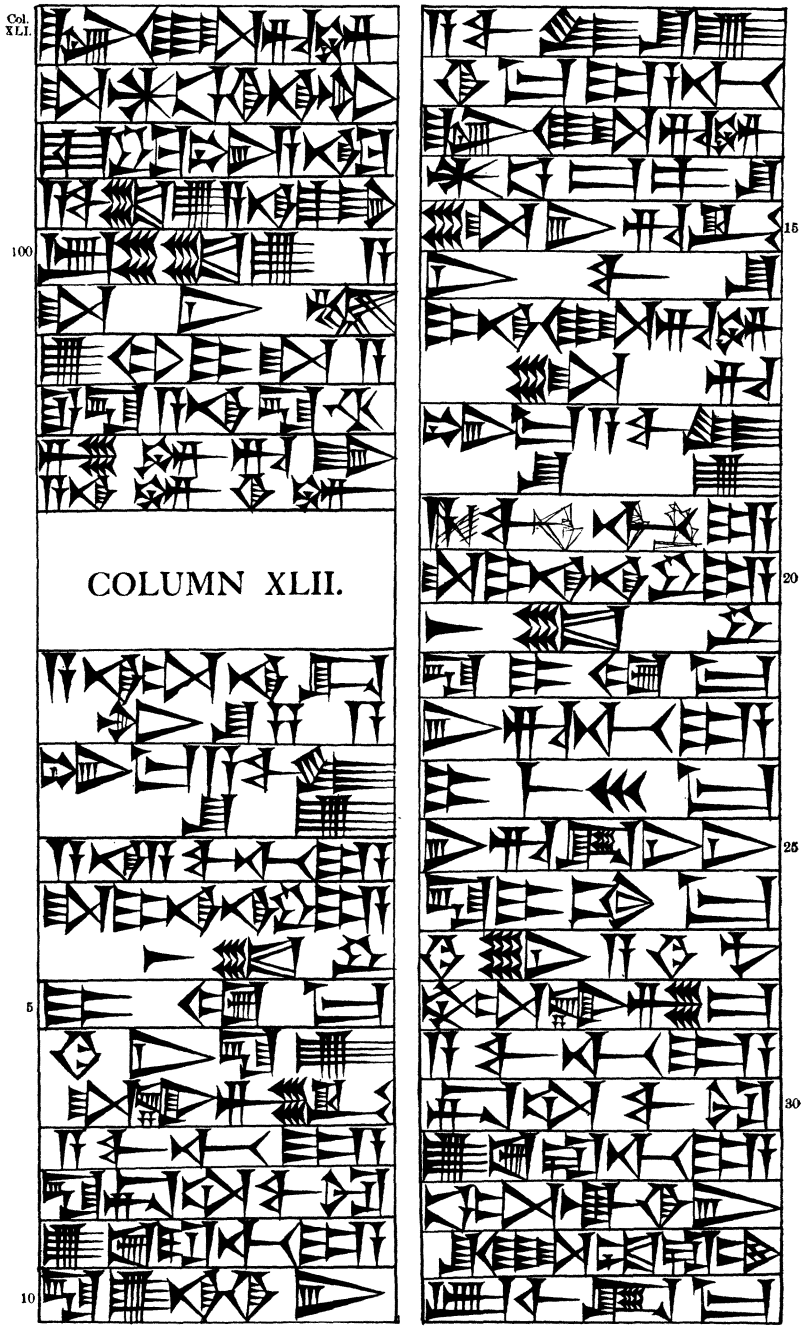
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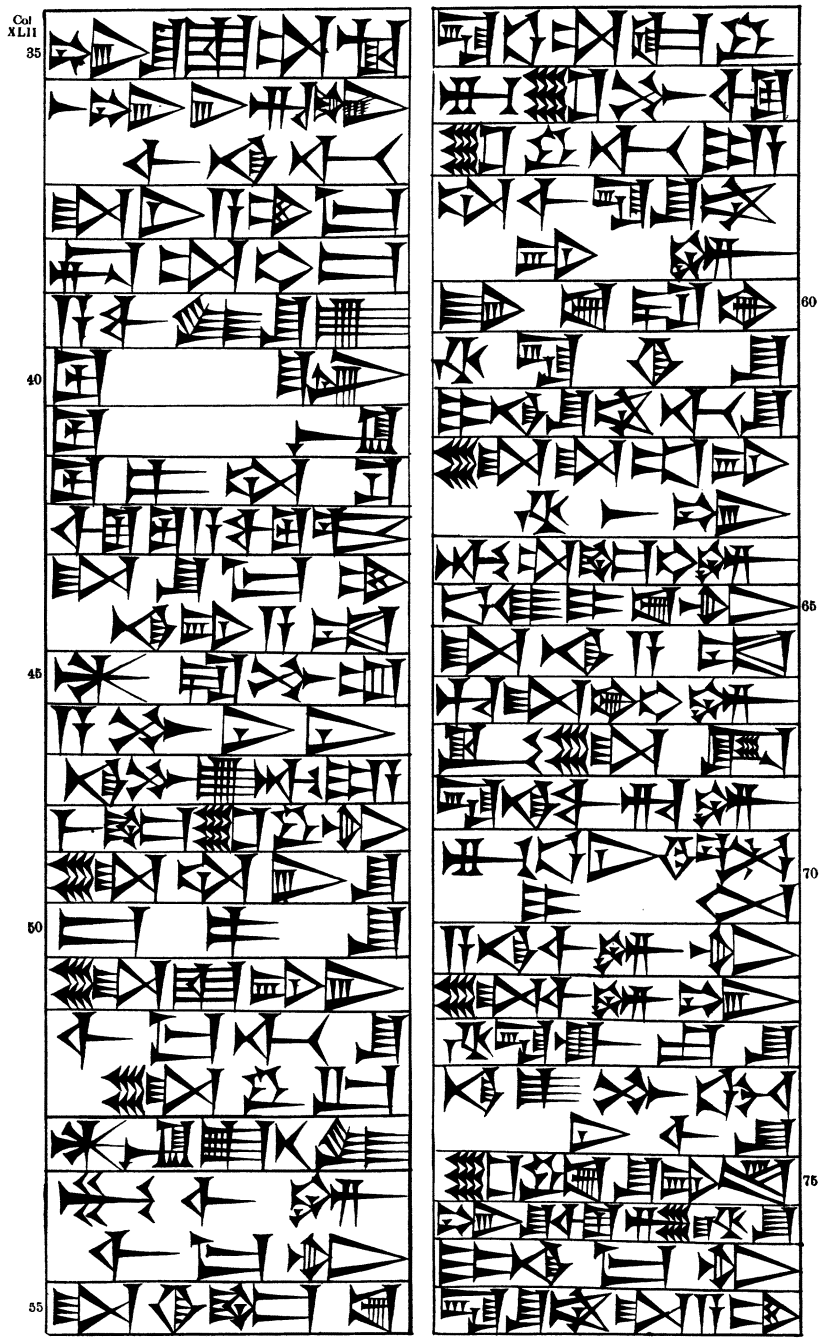
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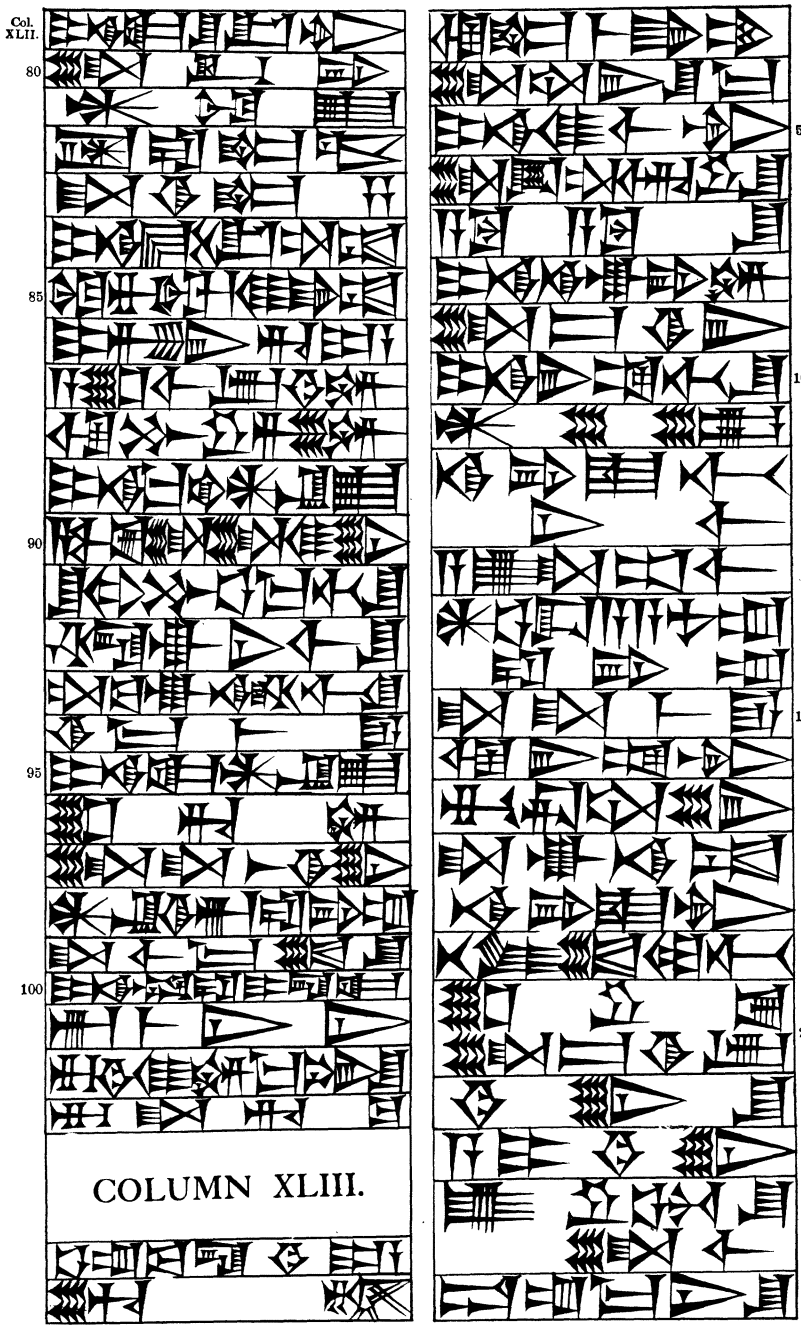
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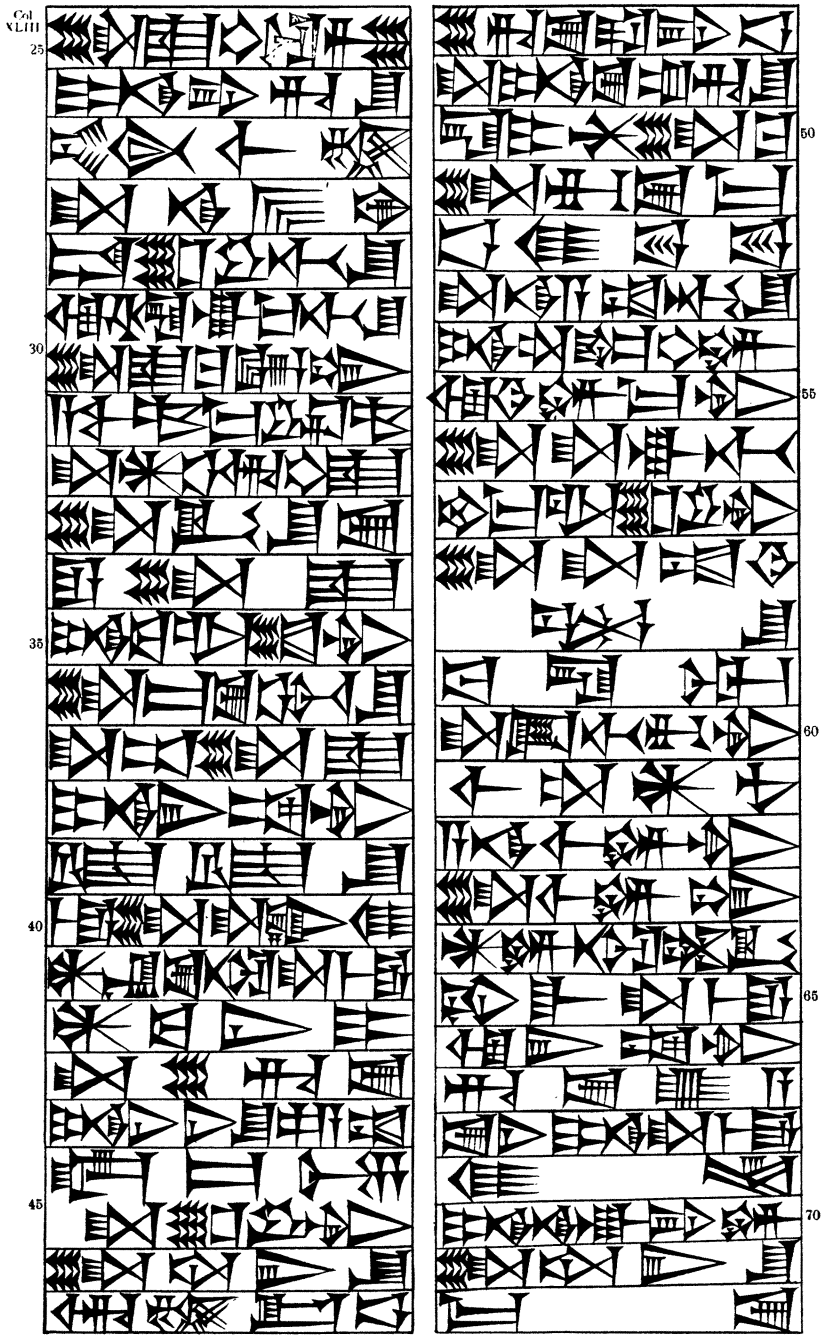
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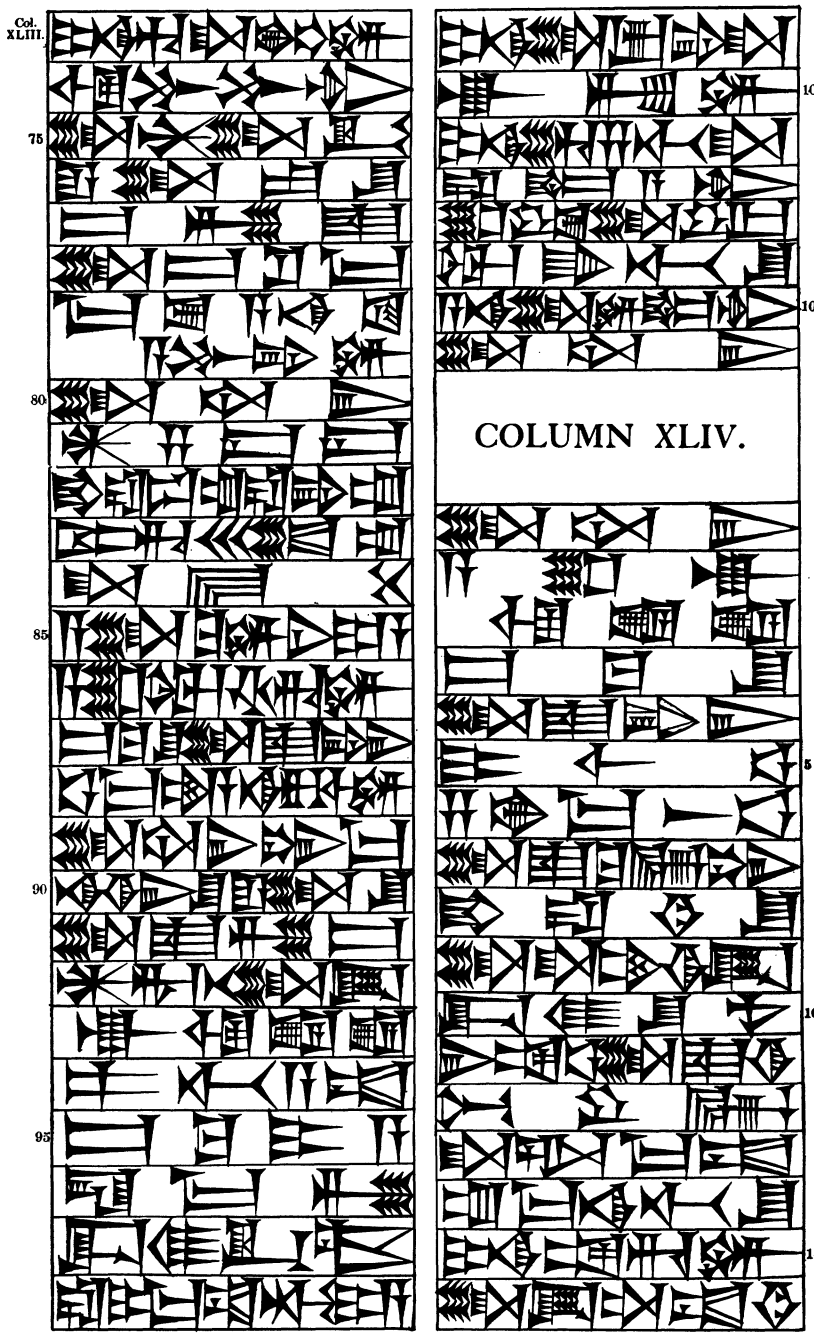
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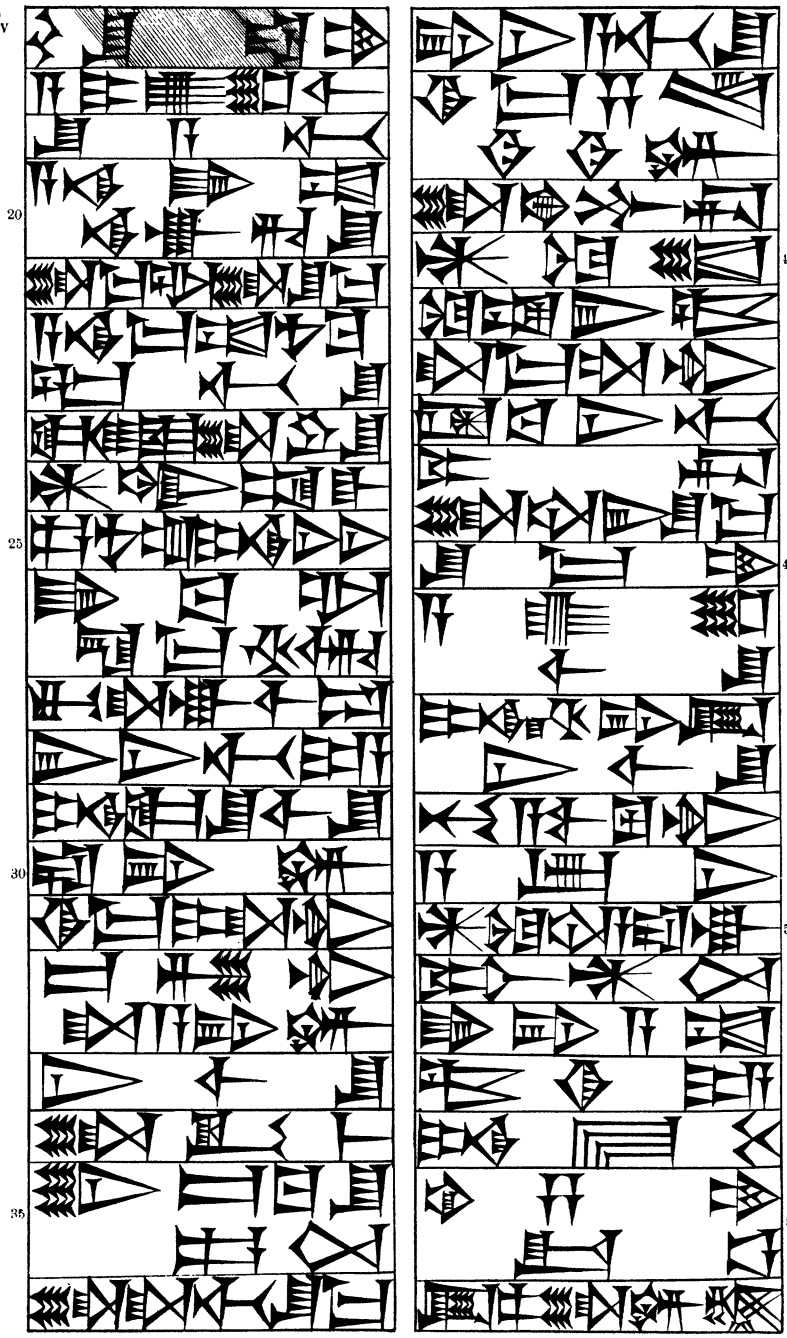

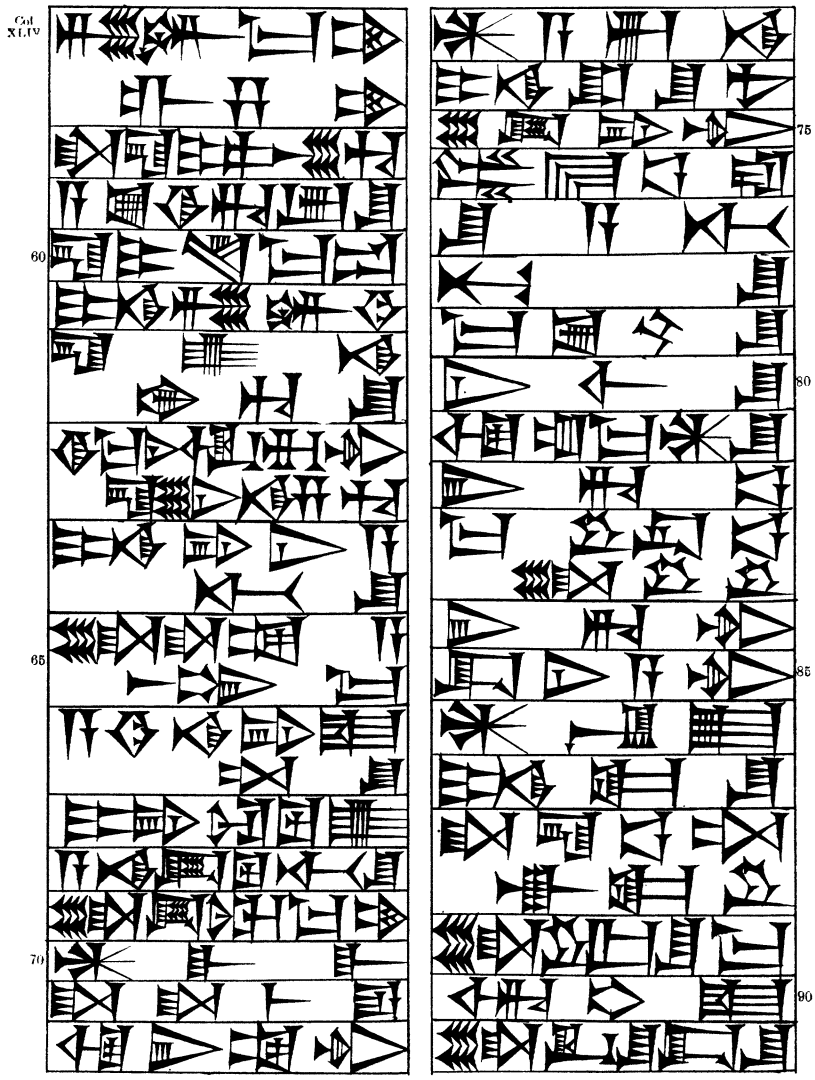
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